



God's Word is The Truth and full of practical teaching for Believers to **know** and **do** as we seek to honor Him through obedient living. In order to get the most from the Word we need to have an intentional approach of study. Note: there is no "right" way.

Everyone has their own study preferences, but here are some suggestions you might want to add to your regimen that will enhance your study experience.

When His **T**ruth is **I**ngested, it **P**roduces **S**trength. Here are some study **TIPS**.

1. Have a regular **Time** to study. Schedule it when you are least likely to be interrupted.
  - Consider doing your study in 2-3 sessions of 30-45 mins each.
  - Early morning works best for many before the cares of the day demand attention.
  - It's better to do the lesson early in the week and think about it during the week.
2. Have a regular **Place** to study. Be comfortable. Minimize distractions. Turn off the phone. Background music? For some, spiritual background music enhances the study.
3. Have a pen and note pad ready to capture thoughts and questions.
4. Read the entire passage first. Use your preferred translation (take notes).  
Then - read it a second time in your secondary translation (take notes).  
Then - read it in the NLT (a thought for thought translation (take notes).
5. Review your notes. Do you see any general theme? Who is involved? What are the main issues / concerns? What are you confused about?
6. Write down the **Main Point** of the passage. What is God trying to tell us? (<20 words.)
7. You are now ready to complete the Next Step Lesson Questions.
8. After you've completed the NS Questions, on the last page of each lesson the **Pause with Paul page** asks you to write down the **Portrait of Paul** (*attributes, characteristics*), **Principles** (*Truth about God, Warning, Promise, How He relates to man*), **Path** (*what steps you can take from this lesson*), **Prayer** (*over the application of what you have learned*) and **Precept** (*scripture verse to memorize*). **This page helps you apply what you have just studied.**
9. This is a good time to do outside readings (Study Bible footnotes, Commentaries) to aid your view of the passage (don't do this until you have a grasp of the lesson). Also, some good tech resources: Blue Letter Bible, etc...
10. Take your **Path (or next steps)** and write this on a 3x5 card and refer to it thru the week.

May these **TIPS** help you learn and apply God's Word in your life... **To His glory!**