

How to Study the Bible - Jan 21

Getting to Know You

1. Without saying them out loud, how many Christmas movies could you name?
 - a. Once each person has given their number, start naming them.
2. Again, without saying them out loud, how many Books of the Bible can you name?
 - a. Once each person has given their number, without looking at your bible (or anywhere else for that matter!), start naming them in order, from Genesis to Revelation. (There are 66.)

In part 3 of our new series *How to Study the Bible* we finally get to looking at the content of the Bible. In this discussion we'll bring up features we can enjoy today, thanks to countless people in Christian history and because of modern technology.

Digging Deeper

1. In the opening of the message, we were offered some tools that can enhance our Bible Study experience. What were they?
2. Pastor Nik said studying the Bible is like going to the gym. How so?
3. The Old Testament was written in what language originally? What about the New Testament? Can anyone explain the Septuagint? (If not, feel free to google it.)
4. On Sunday we showed a video from ***The Bible Project*** (bibleproject.com). Was there anything helpful to you about that video regarding Bible translations? (It might be helpful to rewatch it on a phone or screen share to a tv in your host's living room: <https://youtu.be/bmO0Fwa74QM>)
5. There are all sorts of Study Bibles available. If you own one, what kind is it? Was there a reason you chose that particular one?
 - a. Why was a good Study Bible so highly recommended in the Sunday message?
6. Cross-referencing is reading a verse and using the attached notation to reference another verse in the Bible with a similar word or topic. How can this be a helpful tool when studying the Bible?
7. Toward the back of a Study Bible there is an index of subjects, dictionary and/or concordance. What are these and how are they helpful?
8. What is the value of looking at a map—either on a page in a book of the Bible you're reading, or stopping to look at a map in the back of the Bible?

Making It Personal

- If you don't own a Study Bible, would you consider buying one? There are many options but a great, basic one would be *The Life Application Study Bible* published by Zondervan. Translations can vary. We recommend the New Living Translation (NLT) or the New International Version (NIV). It's available in hardcover, softcover, leather, etc.
- Following up from last week, were you able to go deeper and study the Bible last week? If so, was there anything new you learned?
- Have someone pray for your group, for God's Spirit to stir a hunger in each of you for studying the Bible and applying it to your lives.