How To Study the Bible Notes from 1/26/2025

These "how to study" tips won't be appropriate for every kind of study.

We all learn differently; choose the aids that help you.

Begin with Prayer (this one is always appropriate!)

Remember the order of good study habits: Observation / Interpretation / Application

For a chapter study:

Read several times — be aware of

the 5 W's and H who, what, when, where, why and how

key words, repeated words and phrases

time

locations

conclusions (therefore)

comparisons and contrasts — (like, as, but, not)

Note what puzzles you - pencil? in margin

Consider highlighting or marking (on observation sheet)

Consider making lists

Consider diagramming (not perfect grammar but flow of text)

Consider drawing (Tabernacle, etc.)

Be patient — it's about personal growth

it's about growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus

it's about obedience to what is known, not fretting over what is not known

Good Exegisis — Bring out of the text vs Eisegisis — Don't put your assumptions into the text

Word Studies - e.g. Pastor Dan talents / Jesus-Peter conversation Do you love me

Commentaries / Study Bible Tools. (Great to use but not in place of personal effort.)

Free Resources: blueletterbible.org (on line)

E-Sword (can down-load so not internet dependent)

got question.com (on line)

Remember the order of good study habits: <u>Observation</u> / <u>Interpretation</u> / <u>Application</u> For Observation see notes above

For Interpretation

David L. Cooper's "The Golden Rule of Interpretation" - as explained by Pastor Dan (email of May 29, 2023. "When the plain sense of Scripture makes good sense, seek no other sense. Therefore, take every word in its primary, ordinary, usual, literal meaning, unless the facts of the immediate context, studied in the light of related passages and fundamental and axiomatic truths, clearly indicate others."

Remember context rules ... consider the surrounding verses, the book, and the entire Word of God

Remember Scripture will never contradict Scripture.

Application

Prayer and reflection.

Is there a command, correction, warning, encouragement, promise, etc., for me to heed?