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# S.O.A.P. Bible Study Method

## Scripture

Take a verse or passage, pray over it and then read through slowly. Read through it several times. Allow God to speak to you. When reading a large passage, God will direct your attention to a certain verse or section. Write these down in your workbook or journal and focus your study there.

## Observation

What do I see God saying in this Scripture? To search out the meaning of a verse or passage is like detective work. Is there a declaration of truth, a promise? Is there a command or exhortation? Is there a warning? Record your observations. Paraphrase and write this scripture down in your own words in your journal. Ask, "How would I explain the Scripture if I was teaching it to someone else?"

## Application

After you have done your observations and made your findings as to what the verse(s) is saying, you move on to application. You ask the next question, "What does this (your observations) mean for me? How does this affect my life? Does God have instruction for me today? Encouragement? Correction?" Write down in your WORKBOOK God's personal message to you. "What's the ONE THING You want me to apply here God?" or "What's one thing I learned about who God is?"

## Prayer

Ask for His help in accepting & applying what has been revealed. That is the kind of prayer that God guarantees He will answer. "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of him".

1 John 5:14, 15