

General Topics :: Study mechanisms

Study mechanisms - posted by DEADn (), on: 2015/1/16 11:32

What are you using to study the bible?

I was just introduced to an online thing at bible.org Lumina and from the outset it looks great but I haven't gone through it a great deal. Only tested some things out. I have been looking for something like this that gives original language and expounds on it with other scriptures without giving out someone's mere opinion on it.

I find this to be great for my own spiritual life but also as I talk to others about Jesus.

Re: Study mechanisms - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2015/1/16 12:05

Brother,

I have been using Blue Letter Bible for many years: <http://www.blueletterbible.org> it has a great greek and hebrew helps that gives you every word in the passage so you can know which original language words are there and explanations of that word. I find it helpful and it has been a blessing to see something new in Scripture that way. Looking forward to hearing other saints share more.

For personal bible study I read and mark the bible, I find when I mark it, it helps me retain and also capture what emphasis the Lord is speaking to my heart. In particular I circle action words for emphasis and also short phrases I circle or underline for emphasis. I put a box around a subject like a name of God or object that I want to highlight. And lastly I darkly underline words or phrases that I feel the Lord is speaking to me in. I try to read a few chapters or at least one at a sitting, to learn more about our Lord and to be directed by Him and obey Him.

Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2015/1/16 12:47

Is blue letter strictly an online resource?

I have learned that a reader has to pay careful attention to certain words because there are certain words that cause churches to split and cults to be invented.

Re: Study mechanisms - posted by Oracio (), on: 2015/1/18 19:27

Great topic. I've tried many different methods over the years, such as the Inductive Bible Study approach, using a Study Bible with commentary notes and references, using commentaries, and using Greek and Hebrew lexicons. These days I'd say I use a combination of all of those. I try to read and study slow enough to be able to really chew on and digest well enough what I read.

First I read slowly through a chapter in my Bible which does not contain certain helps such as commentary notes or cross references. As I read I have two crayons and a pen handy to highlight certain portions that stick out. I use a green crayon to highlight portions that stick out for devotional, personal application. I use a blue crayon to highlight portions that stick out for sharing with the lost (sometimes those same portions are also applicable and convicting to me in my walk). I use a pen to underline or circle certain words or portions. Sometimes I write out certain portions on an index card for memorization for both personal, devotional purposes and witnessing to the lost.

If I want more clarification on certain words from the original language I use a lexicon called "The Complete Word Study Dictionary". In case anyone is interested here is the link to that resource at christianbook.com (also available through Amazon):
<http://goo.gl/1Z6r1L>

After I've made sure to first study the Word without helps I also look in my Matthew Henry Study Bible which has brief commentary notes on most verses and cross references. I also end up highlighting some of Henry's notes that stick out. Here also is the link to that resource at christianbook.com in case anyone is interested (also available through Amazon):
<http://www.christianbook.com/the-matthew-henry-bible-hardcover/9781598563405/pd/563405?event=ESRCG>

Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2015/1/18 21:11

Not familiar with Matthew Henry.

Thanks for the links. I am looking for a good combination of paperback books as well as online resources in order to study the scriptures more. This includes look at those things which cause arguments such as why slaves in the bible and so forth. I am using some arguments from Atheists to help me in this as well as the stuff I see from Jehovah's Witnesses to help me zone in on certain things.

I looked at an Interlinear but the print was so small it was a no go. The book was huge, another no go.

I kind of like the bible.org lumina but I can't seem to get it to go back 2 Corinthians but I love out it is laid out.

Re: - posted by Oracio (), on: 2015/1/19 16:05

This website is also great for quickly looking up word definitions from the original languages:

<http://www.apostolic-churches.net/bible/strongs.html>

As you click on the words it takes you to the Strong's definitions.

As a side note here, I'm also trying to make a habit of listening to the Word in audio form and find it very edifying. I listen to it in the NKJV. Here is the link to the audio version I listen to case anyone is interested:

http://www.audible.com/pd/Religion-Spirituality/NKJV-Voice-Only-Audio-Bible-Audiobook/B002V02ENI/ref=a_pd_Religi_c8_2_sim_auth

Re: Study mechanisms - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2015/1/19 16:37

Back in the 1960s when I was in Bible School I took a course "Inductive Method of Bible Study". Since then I have used the principles I learned there in my own Bible Study.

I have "The International Inductive Study Bible". It has wide margins, plenty of room for brief notes. I mark up my Bible with high-lighters of different colors. I may also outline if I see a pattern emerging; if I get a profound insight I will write it in. Only disadvantage to this book is that it is large and heavy.

For many years I used no outside lit to assist in my study - Inductive Method teaches you to let the Bible interpret itself. A few months ago I felt compelled to get a Bible Atlas. What fueled this desire was I was reading in the OT where names of places were given and then I wondered about their location, how they related to each other, etc. After doing a search on the web, checking the reviews, I settled on a "Holman Bible Atlas" (HC). Best investment I made in a long time. It is like seeing these Bible Stories in three dimension. The WOW factor grew! They are greater and more awesome than I imagined. And I get excited! If you are around me very long you will hear about it...

My experience.

Sandra

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2015/1/19 16:52

Quote:

Is blue letter strictly an online resource?

Brother, yes it is also in APP form for devices. A very careful slow reading of Scriptures will usually help bring out the Greek meanings very few times will someone need to know Greek to be able to interpret the genuine true meaning of the Bible. Greek word study does slow you down to then do the first things mentioned!

Re: - posted by dolfan (), on: 2015/1/19 17:10

Aside from some of the ones mentioned already, I like the Olive Tree app. I have ESV, NASB, KJV and ESV keyed to Strong's. The latter is really nice to use, easy. Any app that gives you NASB or ESV with Strong's is good, IMO.

Re: - posted by Oracio (), on: 2015/1/19 19:02

Quote:
-----I am looking for a good combination of paperback books as well as online resources in order to study the scriptures more. This includes look at those things which cause arguments such as why slaves in the bible and so forth. I am using some arguments from Atheists to help me in this as well as the stuff I see from Jehovah's Witnesses to help me zone in on certain things.

This free online resource came to mind in that regard:
<http://www.evidencebible.com/witnessingtool/browse.shtml>

Re: , on: 2015/1/19 20:22

If I were to suggest 'gems' that I've found over the years, I'd suggest this.

"How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth" by Gordon Fee
(Biggest takeaway; Scriptures were written by a certain people, within a certain culture, using a certain language, with relationships we may/may not know more about, based in a time when other comparative documents were written. So, Scripture is a bit more deep than 'Go take up your mat and walk'.)

When it comes to translations, by order of study:
NASB, AMP, NLT, MEV, MSG.

<http://openbible.info> - for quick word studies

<http://blueletterbible.org> - for greek/hebrew

<http://biblehub.com> - for Treasury of Scripture of Knowledge (This is when I'm going ALL IN on a study. Each scripture verse has corresponding parallels. The similar verses can help dig out a gem on studies.)

Plus, when I'm using Treasury of Scripture of Knowledge, I read a dozen or so various commentaries. Sometimes even 'no named' people because sometimes you find cultural references that you'd never find elsewhere.

Finally, I like the web. Physical books is just time consuming. Flip to this reference, flip to that reference. Also, I type fairly fast. So, being able to do research as fast as I can think, is very very nice.