

It's As Easy As 1, 2, 3!

What is this? A verse by verse Bible study method.

Why is this important?

The ultimate purpose of studying the Bible is not just to inform us, but to transform us. Studying God's word equips us with more intentional ways to love God, love his people, and understand his heart for this world.

How will this help me? This method will help you focus, be more intentional, and get the most out of your time reading/studying God's word. Study moves us to specific life applications which in turn transforms us to be more like Jesus.

How do I do it? Follow these three easy steps:

Step One: Write a Personal Paraphrase

Choose a verse or passage from any book in the Bible. Start with Mark, Ephesians or James. Read a few verses or even a chapter and write out the verse or verses that stand out to you in your own words. Try to condense it rather than expand it. **Example:** Ephesians 1:2-3. *Paul speaks grace, peace and blessing over the Ephesian church.* Short, simple and to the point. You aren't rewriting the Bible just putting it into your own words.

Step Two: List Some Questions, Answers, and Observations

1. Write down whatever questions you may have relating to words, phrases, persons, or topics from your verse.
2. Write down any answers you can find and or any observations you have.

Here are some examples:

- **Questions:** Who is this verse written for? Why did the writer write this verse?
- ****Answers:** Paul wrote this verse to the church in Ephesus, to encourage them.
- **Observation:** Paul must have really loved the people in Ephesus. How is my love for the people in my city?

Step Three: Truth Demands a Response! Write Down a Brief Personal Application for Each Verse

1. Because you may have multiple verses in your study, it could be difficult to design a specific application for each. If you can, come up with one or two main thoughts from your study for the purposes of living them out (application)
2. A good application is both specific and doable
3. Try to put a name and date to your application:
 - a. This Thursday night at 7pm I am going to walk around my neighborhood and pray for each household.
 - b. On Monday afternoons at 3pm I am going to pray for each person in my office.
4. Share it with a friend: I always recommend sharing your Bible verse and application with another person. This blesses the other person and helps you live out your application.

****To help you find answers to your Bible questions: Go to the **Bible Questions** button on the **Experience God** page or **The Bible Project**: <https://bibleproject.com/>**