

## Helpful Resources

You do not need to purchase all of these resources, by any means. However, here is a list of some that are helpful if you are interested in enhancing your study. You will get the most out of this study if you use outside resources, and not all of them cost money. Listed below are books, websites, and apps that are all helpful in doing thorough Bible study. First and foremost, you will need a Bible. You might want an NIV Bible since that is the version used throughout this study; however, it is not required.

**Study Bibles:** The first thing you will need- and probably the most important- is a good study Bible. A study Bible will be helpful in looking up cross references, using the concordance, and using notes found below to answer questions of the text. Really, you can use any study Bible that you like; however, we would suggest you pick one that is translated by a committee of people instead of by one individual. Here is a good option:

Carson, D.A., ed. *NIV Zondervan Study Bible*. Zondervan Publishing: Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2015.

**Exhaustive Concordance:** An exhaustive Concordance will be especially helpful in doing word studies or thematic studies. Here is the most popular one:

Strong, James. *The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible*. Nelson Publishers: Nashville, Tennessee, 1995.

**Bible Dictionary:** Bible Dictionaries are helpful in looking up terms and better understanding them in light of the historical context. Here are some good options:

Vine, W.E. *Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words*. Thomas Nelson Publishers: Nashville, Tennessee, 1997.

Richards, Lawrence O. *Richard's Complete Bible Dictionary*. Word Bible Publishers, Inc. Iowa Falls, Iowa, 1973.

Brand, Chad, ed. *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Holman Reference: Nashville, Tennessee, 2015.

**Websites:** There are several websites that are free to use and are helpful in performing many of these studies.

[www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com) is especially good for looking up the same passage in several different versions of the Bible. When looking up different translations, some good ones to use are NIV, NRSV, The Amplified Bible, NASB, or ESV. There are also translations of the Bible that are considered *paraphrases*. Examples of this would be New Living Translation or the Message. These can be useful in helping to understand a passage; however, they are not what you would want to use as your regular study Bible. They are not direct translations but paraphrases of the text, usually done by one person.

[www.blueletterbible.org](http://www.blueletterbible.org) is a great resource for commentaries on the different Bible passages. If you have questions and want to research answers, the many commentaries are a great resource. If you type in a verse at the top, it will come up with an interlinear (with original language definitions of words), other versions of the same verse, cross references, commentaries, and dictionaries.

[www.studylight.org](http://www.studylight.org) has an interlinear which is very helpful in doing word studies. An interlinear Bible has the English words laid out with the Hebrew or Greek laid out underneath. You can then click on the word and get a better understanding of the use of the word in the original languages. This website can be used as an exhaustive concordance and can also give frequency numbers for how many times a word is used in the Bible and where.

#### Here's How:

Using this link: <https://www.studylight.org/interlinear-bible/> you can get to the interlinear Bible. This will allow you to see all the words used in each text and learn the original meaning of them.

For instance, let's look up Genesis 1:1 and the word for "created". When you click on Genesis and chapter one, the whole chapter comes up. Then, click on the word for "created", which is, "bara". The definition will come up:

- 1) to create, shape, form
  - 1a) (*Qal*) to shape, fashion, create (*always with God as subject*)
  - 1a1) of heaven and earth
  - 1a2) of individual man
  - 1a3) of new conditions and circumstances
  - 1a4) of transformations

Below that you will see a frequency list. This shows that the word comes up in Genesis 8 times. Click on that. Then, every verse in Genesis with that word in it will come up.

**Apps:** There are several apps on your phone or tablet that can be very useful for Bible study.



The NIV Bible App is free and has a lot of helpful resources built in. You can use it as a concordance, finding certain word occurrences throughout the Bible. It also has the option to purchase other resources in the app to add to its capabilities.



The You Version Bible App is probably the most popular app for Bible Study. It has several different versions of the Bible included and you can download more as well. You can highlight or listen to a passage being read to you if you would prefer to audibly listen to the text we are studying.



Scripture Typer or the Bible Memory App is a great app to use for memorizing verses. If you find a verse you would like to memorize from our study, you can add it to your list of verses, and it will remind you to work on memorizing it. It slowly builds up until you master a verse.



Naves Topical Bible App is helpful in doing a topical or thematic study in the Bible. If you want to find verses that relate to a particular topic, this would be helpful. Perhaps a passage relates to the topic of faith but doesn't have the word "faith" in it. This would be a helpful resource.