

Bible Study Basics: The “SMAC Down” Method

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Select verses you want to study on a given subject or topic. It is important to go beyond study to memorization to meditation to application. Biblical faith can be broken down into three key areas:

1. KNOWLEDGE – Knowledge comes from the Word of God
2. MEDITATION – Meditation happens as you roll the verse over and over in your mind
3. ACTION – The action plan is a specific plan to incorporate the verse in your life

What is the “SMAC Down“ Method?

S = What does the text SAY grammatically? Write out in two or three sentences.

M = What does this text MEAN historically? What was the author of the verse trying to get his readers to understand when he wrote the verse? Although it is best to become familiar with the Bible and the context of the books through a disciplined and systematic inductive study of the entire Bible over time, you might benefit by purchasing a good, one volume commentary of the entire Bible such as one by Matthew Henry for quick reference of understanding the proper historical interpretation of a verse.

A = How does this text APPLY to me?

1. Is there a truth here about God that I need to believe?
2. Is there a doctrine I need to know?
3. Is there a command I need to obey?
4. Is there a sin I need to avoid?
5. Is there a promise for me to claim?
6. Is there a pattern or an example for me to follow?
7. Is there something I should praise or thank God for?
8. Is there direction for me to follow?
9. Is there a principle for personal guidance?

C = What will I do to CHANGE in response to this Biblical text?