



CROSS-CHECKING



The Main Dish

Prayerfully meditate on the passages in the chart below, and write your responses to the questions in the chart headings.

Passage	What are we told to do with the Word?	What will the Word do <i>to</i> you or <i>for</i> you?	In what situations would this be helpful?
Psalm 119:9			
Psalm 119:97-100			
Proverbs 2:1-6			
Hebrews 5:12-14			

WRAPPING IT UP

Bon Appétit!

BITE-SIZED BIBLE STUDY IDEAS

1. Start small: Don't get overwhelmed by the size of the Bible. Choose a small book of the Bible or even a single chapter, and spend the next few days with it. It's better to know a small part of Scripture well than to skim a large portion.

Here are some ideas. Choose one before you leave today, and write your name in the left column beside your choice.

My Choice	Bite-Sized Bible Study Ideas
	Read John 1, and write down every detail about Jesus.
	Read Colossians 1 and journal everything you learn about <i>you</i> .
	Read 1 John 4, and draw a heart over every reference to love. Then make a list of everything you learn about love.
	<i>Own</i> the book of Jude. It's one chapter—only 25 verses.
	Scour James for every practical instruction for living out your faith in Christ. Then <i>do</i> the instructions.

2. Don't just read the text: Instead, chew on it. Meditate on it. *Own it.* Make these three requests of God as you read every verse:

God, show me.

Ask him, *What do you want me to see?* To help you focus on what God is showing you, look for and mark with symbols as you've done throughout this study answers to questions such as:

-*Who is involved?*

-*What's going on?*

-*Where is it taking place?*

-*When is this happening?*

-*Is there a command to obey?*

-*A promise to believe?*

Read the passage more than once in order to see new details each time. Get a pack of colored pencils, and mark away.

God, teach me.

Now that you've seen the details, you can ask God to teach you about the passage.

-*Why is this passage important?*

-*Why is it even recorded in the Bible?*

-*What did it say to its original readers?*

-*What does it say to my world today?*

Journal your answers in a notebook.

God, change me.

This is where you apply what God has shown and taught you. The power of truth comes when truth changes our thinking and behavior. So don't leave your study time without writing down two or three things you need to do, such as a personal change or an act of kindness for someone else.

3. Journal your thoughts: Keeping a small notebook with your Bible all the time reminds you to expect God to show and teach you something when you read his Word. Be ready to write down any thoughts that come to mind during your Bible time. If God speaks to you through his Word—and he will—why rely on your memory to keep track of what he said? Write it down.