



DIY

DO IT YOURSELF

HOW TO BREATHE IN AND OUT
THE WORD OF GOD

As a church, we want to see people become fully devoted, spiritually mature, followers of Jesus who make disciples. This transforms and overflows into every aspect of our lives, but one way we can begin to go deeper is through allowing the Word of God to sink into our hearts.

Let's look at how to **receive**, **study**, and **discuss** scripture.

STUDY

The next step is to go back and study what you heard or read. Having a specific study method allows you to dig deeper into scripture (we listed the SOAP acronym as a model, but find what works best for you). Before you start, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to teach you. Read over the passage as many times as needed.

SOAP

Scripture: Write down the scripture and reference that stands out to you.

Observation: Write down any observations. These questions can help to guide you:

- Who is God? (*What does this text reveal about the nature of God?*)
- Who am I? (*What does this text reveal about yourself?*)
- What has God done? (*What does this text reveal about what God has done for us?*)
- Who have I become? (*What does this text reveal about your new identity in Jesus?*)

Application: How can you apply what you have read and observed in your own life?

Prayer: Write down a prayer in response to what the Lord has shown you.



DISCUSS

Finally, we want to take what God has revealed to us and share it with others. The Discovery Bible Study method is useful for discussing scripture in a group setting or even one-on-one.

Here's how it works:

Who: Natural communities—those who are already connected as friends or family are the best environments for Group Study

What: Discovery, not teaching. Facilitators, not leaders. Let scripture lead the discussion and join in, rather than providing answers.

How: Emphasize obedience and passing it on. It's important to obey God, not just acquire knowledge. Each Discovery Bible Study ends with a concrete response and intent to share.

Group Discussion

Remember, this is facilitated, not lead. Anyone and everyone should be prepared and able to contribute.

What are you thankful for right now? What are you stressed or worried about right now?

How did you do with the response last time? Whom did you tell?

Read passage and summarize.

What does this passage teach us about God or His plan?

What does this passage teach us about people—about us?

What are you doing well? What do you need to change? How can you respond and put it into practice this week? (Aim for concrete statements beginning with "I will...")

Who needs to hear this story?



