

# ① THE DEVOTIONAL METHOD

DEFINITION:

*Taking a passage of Scripture and prayerfully meditating on it until the Holy Spirit shows you a way to apply its truth to your life. The goal is for you to take the Word of God seriously and “do what it says.”*  
(James 1:22)

## WHY

Bible study without personal application can become an academic exercise without life transformation.

**STEP 1** Scripture

**STEP 2** Observation

**STEP 3** Application

**STEP 4** Prayer

# ② THE THEMATIC METHOD

DEFINITION:

*Approaching a biblical theme with a set of questions in mind.*

## WHY

To discover what you can about a chosen theme throughout a chapter, book, of the entire Bible.

**STEP 1** *Select a Theme to Study*

**STEP 2** *Decide on the Questions You will Ask*

**STEP 3** *List All the Verses You Intend to Study*

**STEP 4** *Ask Your Questions of Each Reference*

**STEP 5** *Draw Out Some Conclusions from Your Study*

**STEP 6** *List a Few Applications*

# ③ THE CHAPTER ANALYSIS METHOD

DEFINITION:

*Gaining a thorough understanding of the content of a chapter in the Bible by looking carefully at each paragraph, sentence, and word in a detailed and systematic way.*

## WHY

This method enables you to understand the Bible in the way in which it was written—in whole books.

**STEP 1** *Read Chapter 5x*

**STEP 2** *Write Out a Caption*

**STEP 3** *Circle the Key People, Places, and Words*

**STEP 4** *Write Out the Major Lessons in the chapter*

**STEP 5** *Choose a Lesson and Write Out what God is Speaking to You*

# ④ THE VERSE-BY-VERSE METHOD

DEFINITION:

*Selecting a passage of Scripture and examining it in detail by asking questions, finding cross-references, and paraphrasing each verse.*

## WHY

Allows you to have a more in-depth approach that requires a minimum amount of study tools.

**STEP 1** *Write Out a Personal Paraphrase*

**STEP 2** *List Some Questions, Answers, and Observations*

**STEP 3** *Find Some Cross-References for Each Verse*

**STEP 4** *Record Any Insights You Can Get from Each Verse*

**STEP 5** *Write Out a Personal Application for Each Verse*

Rick Warren's  
Bible Study Methods



*Study the Bible to find out  
what God has to say to you!*

①  
DEVOTIONAL

②  
THEMATIC

③  
CHAPTER ANALYSIS

④  
VERSE-BY-VERSE

*BEST*  
**CHAPTER EVER**

**4**  
BIBLE  
STUDY  
METHODS

8:30AM & 10AM  
Online & Onsite  
[pathwayschurch.us](http://pathwayschurch.us)

Proverbs 30:5a (NIV)  
"Every word of God is flawless..."