How to Read and Understand the Bible

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I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13 (NASB)

1. Get a bible you can <u>UNDERSTAND.</u>

"When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road. Matthew 13:19 (NASB)

The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever. Isaiah 40:8 (NASB)

So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.
Isaiah 55:11 (NASB)

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12 (NASB)

2. Look at the <u>CONTEXT.</u>

Some people say in order to understand the context of the scripture you need to read 20 verses before and 20 verses after and that a good rule to follow. But I would like to add that reading the intro to the book helps us to understand who wrote the book from where they wrote the book under what circumstance they wrote the book and to whom the book was written and the date it was written.

3. <u>PRAY.</u>

Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,
Luke 24:45 (NASB)

A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.
Acts 16:14 (NASB)

S<u>CRIPTURE.</u>

O<u>BSERVATION.</u>

A<u>PPLICATION.</u>

P<u>RAYER.</u>

Notes

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