

# Contents

How to Use this Bible Study.....	5
Chapter 1: GOAL Study in Ephesians .....	7
Chapter 2: Word Study in Philippians .....	17
Chapter 3: Doctrine Study in Colossians .....	23
Chapter 4: Narrative Study of Philemon.....	31
Chapter 5: Compare and Contrast Study in Hebrews.....	39
Chapter 6: Character Study of Timothy.....	63
Chapter 7: Praying through Scripture in 1 Timothy .....	69
Chapter 8: Book Study of Titus .....	73
Chapter 9: Text Marking in 2 Timothy.....	77
Basic Principles of Bible Study.....	89
Chart Guides.....	91



# How to Use this Bible Study

## Resources Needed

- Bible

You choose which version you want to use.

- Bible Reference Tools (Get one, two, or all three.)

**Study Bible**—A study Bible contains outlines, background information, and notes intermingled along with the text of each book of the Bible.

**Bible Commentary**—A commentary records another Bible student's comments on a particular book of the Bible or all the books of the Bible. Ask your parents and pastor to recommend a good one.

**Bible Handbook**—A handbook is a collection of background information and notes, somewhat similar to those found in a study Bible, but without the Bible text included.

- *Strong's Concordance*

*Strong's Concordance* is available for many versions of the Bible. You can find it as a printed book, as software, or on websites like <http://blueletterbible.org> and <http://biblos.com>.

## How It Works

Each chapter in this book will walk you through a different type of Bible study. You will learn how to perform a

**GOAL Study**—Search for promises, commands, sins, and principles.

**Word Study**—Discover what a particular word means and what God says about it.

**Doctrine Study**—Collect and organize doctrinal truths throughout Scripture.

**Narrative Study**—Make Biblical accounts come alive in your mind.

**Compare and Contrast Study**—Investigate similarities and differences to expand your understanding.

**Character Study**—Get to know a Bible character as a real person.

**Praying through Scripture**—Learn to use Scripture as an aid in prayer.

**Book Study**—Become familiar with one book of the Bible.

**Marking the Text**—Make a passage your own with a technique to highlight your findings.

Just follow the simple step by step instructions in each chapter. Once you complete all of these studies, you can use the same step by step instructions to perform other studies on your own.

## Your Schedule

Each chapter is divided into shorter lessons. You should be able to complete one lesson in one sitting. Wait at least a day before tackling the next lesson. Sure, you could complete all the lessons in a chapter in one day, but you would miss the benefits of having time to meditate on what you are studying. Spreading out your study over several days or weeks gives you time to ponder, contemplate, and consider truth rather than rushing through the study just to get it done. So take your time.



# Chapter 1

## *GOAL Study in Ephesians*

Let's start out by doing a GOAL Study. Everything we learn from the Bible—about God and His dealings with mankind—should shape our attitudes and actions. James 1:22 summarizes this goal: we should be “doers of the word, and not hearers only.”

A GOAL Bible Study is designed to help you read Scripture with an eye toward that goal of doing what it says. You will be encouraged to press toward the goal of becoming more like Christ by discovering and determining to

- G**rasp this promise*
- O**bey this command*
- A**void this sin*
- L**ive this principle*

## Lesson 1

For this GOAL Study, you will be focusing on the book of Ephesians.

First, ask God to help you understand His Word, then read Ephesians 1. As you read, look for promises, commands, sins, and principles (basic truths for life) and record them in the corresponding sections. Write your findings in a way that will help you remember them as you review them during the coming week.

Each day during the week, review your findings and ask God for opportunities to shape your actions and attitudes according to His Word.

**GOAL**    *Grasp this promise.*

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**GOAL**    *Obey this command.*

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**GOAL**    *Avoid this sin.*

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**GOAL**    *Live this principle.*

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## Lesson 2

Before you move on, look back at your findings for chapter 1 and identify the truths that you had an opportunity to put into practice last week. Thank God for reminding you of those truths and for giving you the power to be a doer of the Word.

Then ask God to help you understand His Word and read Ephesians 2. As you read, look for promises, commands, sins, and principles (basic truths for life) and record them below.

Each day during the week, review your findings and ask God for opportunities to shape your actions and attitudes according to His Word.

GOAL    *Grasp this promise.*

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GOAL    *Obey this command.*

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**GOAL**    *Avoid this sin.*

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**GOAL**    *Live this principle.*

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## Lesson 3

Before you move on, look back at your findings for chapter 2 and identify the truths that you had an opportunity to put into practice last week. Thank God for reminding you of those truths and for giving you the power to be a doer of the Word.

Then ask God to help you understand His Word and read Ephesians 3. As you read, look for promises, commands, sins, and principles (basic truths for life) and record them below.

Each day during the week, review your findings and ask God for opportunities to shape your actions and attitudes according to His Word.

**GOAL**    *Grasp this promise.*

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**GOAL**    *Obey this command.*

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**GOAL**    *Avoid this sin.*

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**GOAL**    *Live this principle.*

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