

Basic Study Guide

Two ways to study:

#1 – Study with your mind made up, out to prove a point.

#2 – Study and let it make up your mind.

If you wish to learn something, go with option #2

1. Begin
 - a. Question, idea, topic or by reading a verse or story

2. Understand the words in the text
 - a. Use helps
 - i. Footnotes in books, concordances, word studies, lexicons, Bible dictionaries, commentaries

Example: Acts 10:42 (quick? = living)
Acts 10:29 (gainsaying? = objection)

3. Determine the setting
 - a. Who is being spoken to

 - b. Any special conditions of those spoken to
 - i. Good church group, bad church group, non-believers, new believers, prophets, hypocrites

4. Was the reference made to:
 - a. Single person or group
 - b. All encompassing for the world

Example: Luke 18:22
“sell all thou hast” (Personal direction)
“come follow me” (Worldwide direction)

5. Decide if it is given as:

- a. Commandment 3rd Nephi 5:66-67
- b. Warning 3rd Nephi 14:2-3, 13:29-30
- c. Example Alma 16:191-194
- d. Writers thoughts Alma 19:55
- e. History Matthew 2

6. Find out:

- a. Did those who received the message respond to it?
- b. If so, did they accept or reject the message?
- c. What was the result of their decision?

Example: Jonah

7. Ask yourself / Determine

- a. What traits or attitude does modern man have in common with those of the time scripture was given

Example: 1st Timothy 4:8 (Body conscious era)

8. Ask yourself what attitudes, feelings, ideas, actions, should this affect in my life?

Example: Alma 16:223
Instructions were to proud church members, that looked down on less fortunate

9. What is the point of the verse?

- a. What is the verse talking about? (Central idea)
- b. What is the verse saying about it?
- c. What is the verse saying about what its saying?

Example: James 1:5-7
Central idea:
Wisdom
What is it saying?
What to do if you lack it

What is it saying about what its saying?
If you lack wisdom, ask God in Faith

Are you done? ... No
Look up all occurrences of synonyms

Example: Faith – believe, trust
Wisdom – knowledge, understanding

10. Completed study – formed opinion

a. compare notes, ideas, findings with others (check yourself)

Example 2nd Peter 1:20

11. If you get hung up, ask for help

Other Considerations

1. Expressional consistency – determining the meanings of types

a. Idioms used – remain constant throughout scriptures

Example: 1st Nephi 2:62 (Rod of Iron?)
1st Nephi 4:38-39 (defined – Word of God)
Revelation 12:5 (Consistent – Word of God)

Matthew 16:18 (Rock?)
1st Corinthians 10:4 (defined – Christ)
Helaman 2:74-75 (defined – Christ)

Romans 9:33 (Consistent)
2nd Nephi 12:33-34 (Consistent)

2. Take advantage of someone else's study

a. Sermons

1. Defines word – write it in the margin
2. Gives a connecting verse – note it
3. Explains verse – document it
4. Follow along – understand it

Examples:	<u>Verse read</u>	<u>Margin note</u>
	Revelation 13:1	Revelation 17:12
	Matthew 3:11	Moroni 8:29
	2 nd Nephi 3:42	1 st Nephi 1:91-92
		1 st Nephi 2:12-14, 1 st Nephi 5:26,48, 85-102, 151-153,181-189,196-201

b. Sunday School

1. Keep records

c. Study books

1. Commentaries, History books, Customs and Life style books

3. Take notes

- a. write in books
 - i. fly leaf in back
 - ii. margins
- b. keep note book
 - i. by subject
- c. do both

1st Corinthians 2:9-10

Luke 8:15-17

(Earnest study reveals to you)

What good is it if you don't have it when you need it?

If you don't write it, you lose it

Examples:	<u>Verse</u>	<u>Margin note</u>
	1 st Timothy 5:22	Acts 13:1-3
	Genesis 49:22	Nahum 3:8
	1 st Nephi 2:62	1 st Nephi 4:38-39

4. Ask yourself questions

(become as a little child – Why Daddy? How come? What if?)

- a. List all questions
- b. Look up all occurrences of words (Use concordance)
- c. List verses that answer questions
- d. Look up any footnotes listed
- e. Formulate new questions for answers you find when looking up words

Example: Study is “faith”
James 1:5-7 “to get wisdom, ask in faith”

- q. What is Faith?
 - a. Hebrews 11:1-3
- q. How do I get it?
 - a. Alma 16:149-163
- q. What if I don’t have it?
 - a. Hebrews 11:6
- q. Is it necessary?
 - a. Moroni 7:24-25
- q. Besides wisdom, what else will I get?
 - a. Alma 16:144
- q Why do I believe this?

5. Compare all the Gospels

Example: a. Mark 9:14-18, Luke 9:37-40, Matthew 17:14-21
b. Matthew 5:3-12, 3rd Nephi 5:50-59