

The Fifteen-Minute Bible Study Method

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This method assumes you have fifteen minutes, a pen, and no commentary. It works on any passage and gets better the more you use it on the same book.

Minutes 1-4 • Read

Read the passage twice. The first time straight through with no pen. The second time out loud, slowly.

- Choose 8-15 verses, never a whole chapter of narrative.
- Reading aloud catches what your eyes skip.

Minutes 5-8 • Mark

Use four marks and no more. A consistent set of marks is what turns reading into study.

- Circle repeated words.
- Underline commands.
- Box connecting words: therefore, but, so that, because.
- Star anything about God's character.

Minutes 9-12 • Ask

Write three questions in the margin and answer the one you can answer from the text itself.

- What does this say about God?
- What does this say about people?
- What did the boxed connecting word connect, and why does that matter?

Minutes 13-15 • Apply

One sentence, present tense, with a verb you can actually do today. "Be more patient" is not an application. "I will not interrupt my daughter tonight" is.

- Write it where you will see it before noon.
- Pray the sentence back to God and stop there.

Notes for this month

TAKE IT WITH YOU

Fifteen focused minutes, five days a week, is more Scripture than most people study in a month of scrolling devotionals.

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