

St. Basil Saturday Scripture Study Group

Hello everyone,

As we restart our scripture study in its new form, we will also be changing our study approach. In the past, we studied books, Gospels, or letters. In our new form we will do topical study. WHAT'S A TOPICAL BIBLE? Simply put, a topical Bible takes passages of Scripture and organizes them by topic. Topical studies allow you to unearth what is said about that subject through all of Scripture. Studying the Bible by topic can be an extraordinarily rich and rewarding to approach God's word because it gives you a fuller understanding of what God says about a subject.

For each topic I will give you 10-20 scriptural references to look-up. As always you will need to address the following:

1. Who was the author?
2. Who was the scripture address to?
3. What was the meaning intended for that community at that time?
4. What is God trying to say to you today?
5. How can God's word be applied in your life?

Remember to **Pray**. Always pray when you dive into God's word. It does not have to be long and drawn out or super serious. Just remember that this book is God's word. He knows what is inside, he knows what you need to read/hear at this moment, and his Spirit can help you understand it. Though I am sticking prayer here as a definite beginning step, it is a good idea to be in conversation with God throughout your study.

Once you have gotten your list of passages, start looking them up. Depending on the topic you are studying, this may take some time, and that is okay. The point here is not to rush through. As you read, it might be helpful to have a journal or some way to take notes, that way you can track what you read on that topic. Write down key phrases, verses, or summarize the passages. Do not draw any conclusions yet, just make some observations. We will discuss them when we meet in each session.

We will begin next week studying "**FAITH, GRACE, AND OBEDIENCE: THE THREE-LEGGED STOOL**". Remember this will take time. We are not going to rush through this. The first leg will be "FAITH". The list of scripture is as follows:

1. Hebrews 11:1-6
2. Mark 11:21-25
3. Proverbs 3:5-6
4. James 1:5-8
5. Habakkuk 2:4
6. Matthew 21:21-22
7. Galatians 2:20
8. Psalm 46:10
9. 1 Peter 1:21
10. Isaiah 30:21

Father,

We thank You for looking beyond our faults and for loving us unconditionally. Forgive us when we fail to love others in the same way. Give us eyes to see the needs of the difficult people in our lives, and show us how to meet those needs in a way that pleases You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.