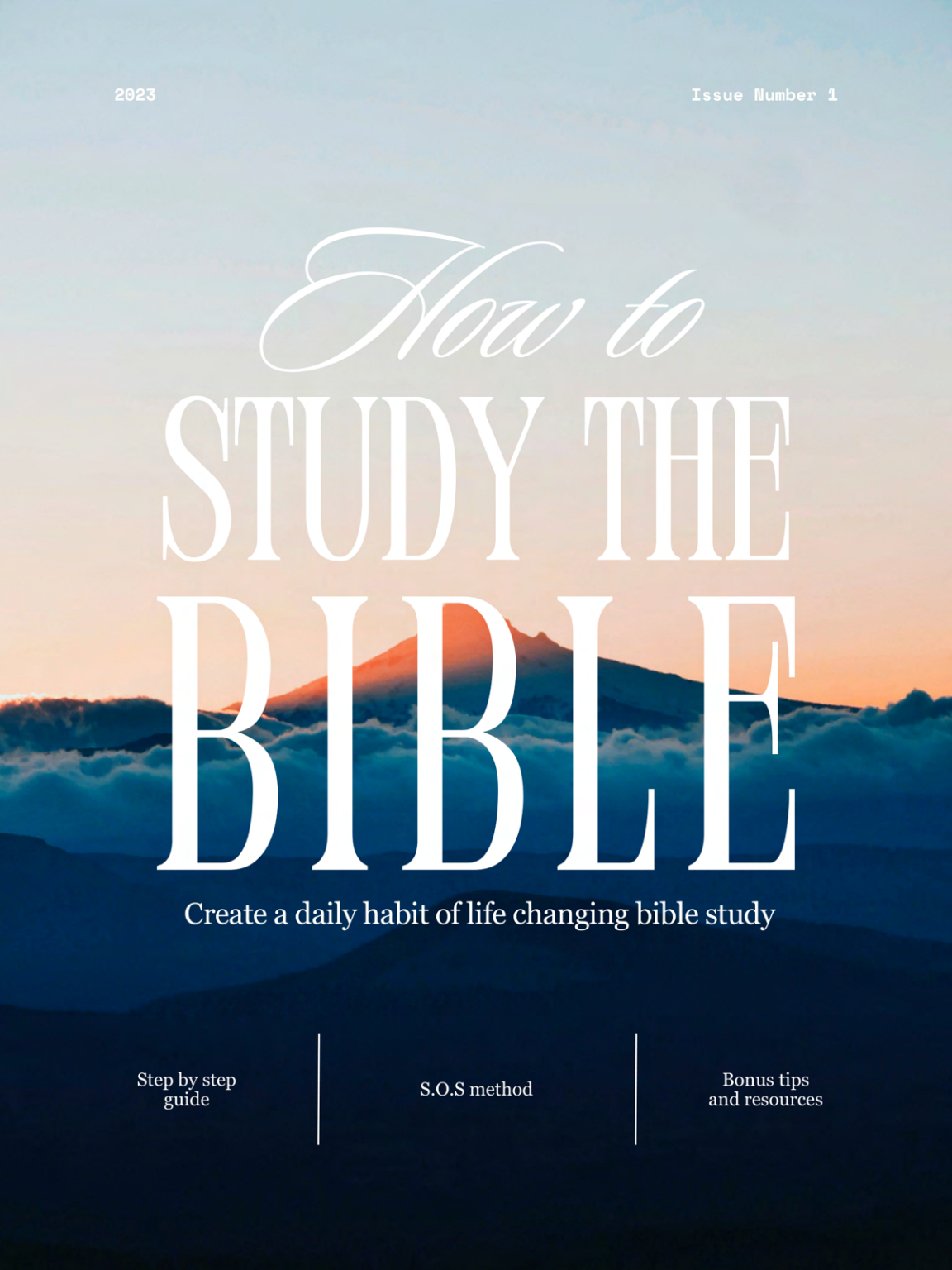


2023

Issue Number 1



How to STUDY THE BIBLE

Create a daily habit of life changing bible study

Step by step
guide

S.O.S method

Bonus tips
and resources

TABLE *of* CONTENTS

Pick the Place 04

Spend more time searching for God than anything else.

Prep the Place 06

Create an environment that is the most encouraging for time in God's word.

Pick the Plan 08

You are in the right place when you are in God's word.

Pursue With A Process 12

Keep it simple!

Other Helpful Resources 18

When you search for God with all of your heart, He promises you will find Him.



“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the

RENEWAL *of your* MIND,

that by testing you may discern what the will of God is, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

- Romans 12:1–2

There is nothing you can do to transform your life like searching God's word every morning for God's will. I pray that you will be encouraged as you read the Bible daily and reap the fruit of a transformed mind.

I promise that the commitment to starting your morning with God and in His word will cause drastic changes in your thoughts and habits. Before unpacking this process, I want you to know

the heart behind this resource. My goal is to help you create a daily practice of life-changing Bible study. This process intends to make one of the most important habits in the world the most approachable habit in your life. There are ways to go more in-depth in the scriptures, but I hope to present a Bible reading process that helps everyday Bible readers get the most out of their reading plans.



Step One

PICK THE PLACE



STEP ONE: PICK THE PLACE

I know... You are here to learn about studying your Bible, and now I have you thinking about good places to sit in your home, but I promise it will make a difference. Consider Jeremiah 29:13

My first suggestion for your quiet time will serve as an outline for the following sections. That is, spend more time searching for God than anything else. Spend your quiet time earnestly searching for God's will instead of a comfortable place to sit, a well-lit table, or a pen to take notes. Allow this time to be between you and God alone. Remove all distractions. You will constantly walk away fed and equipped for the rest of the day.

“You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.”

Step Two

PREP THE PLACE

HOLY
BIBLE

STEP TWO: PREP THE PLACE

Your goal is to create an environment for your morning that is the most encouraging for time in God's word. You don't need many things to prep your Bible study spot, but here are a few that I find extremely helpful.

Your Bible!

01

This is, without a doubt, the most essential tool for you to get to know God. It is the lamp to your feet and light to your path! Without God's word, you will spend your days feeling your way through the dark. You will want to prepare your Bible by opening it to the section you plan to read in the morning. This way, you spend time with The Lord instead of wondering where to begin.



A notebook and something to write with

02

I'm a digital notes guy, but you can use whatever you want to take notes based on what God is teaching you. Taking notes or jotting down a simple comment is a great way to process what God is telling you through His word.



Step Three

PICK THE PLAN



STEP THREE: PICK THE PLAN

I cannot stress this part enough. It breaks my heart watching people overthink where to begin in their Bible reading. I look forward to offering guidance as you read on, but allow me to give some food for thought from 2 Timothy 3:16–17.

You are in the right place when you are in God's word. Timothy's words remind me of my dad's advice about spending too much time trying to make decisions in high school. He would say, "Grant, it is never wrong to do the right thing." And he was right! All Bible is good Bible. You can't read the wrong thing.

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

WHEN I FIRST SURRENDERED MY LIFE TO *Jesus...*

If you're not sure where to start see our One Year Bible Reading Plan. You can access by scanning the QR code on the back.

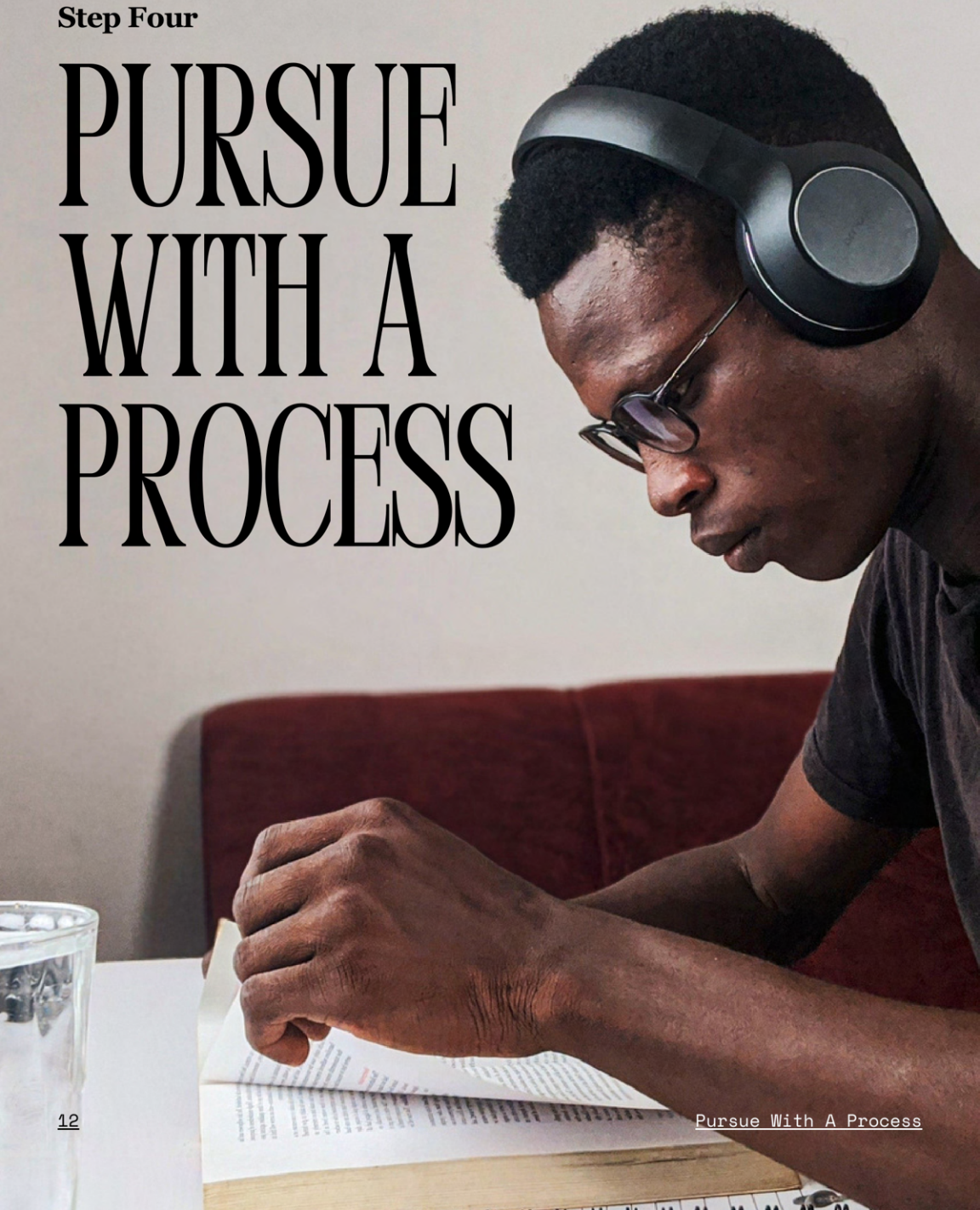
I began to realize there were a few things I tried to withhold from God. One of those was patience. I wanted all wisdom and understanding instantly. I'll never forget hearing my grandpa's encouragement to read through the Bible in order, from Genesis to Revelation... every year. At that moment, I was overwhelmed by the idea. I felt it was unreasonable, if I'm being completely honest. Over a decade passed since that conversation, and I have no regrets reading the Bible cover to cover every year. I'll take this opportunity to pass on the same challenge to you.

Whether you read ten verses or two chapters in a sitting, always make sure you break your reading down into bite-sized pieces with a process. That leads us to our fourth step.



Step Four

PURSUE WITH A PROCESS



THE S.O.S.



BIBLE STUDY METHOD

There are countless processes when it comes to studying God's word. I'm going to keep it simple to help you get started. I will walk you through one of the most straightforward processes, the S.O.S. Bible study process.

Walk through these three questions to get the most out of your quiet time.

- What does the passage say?
- How can I obey this passage?
- How can I share the truth of this passage?



WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE

Say?

That first “S” in S.O.S. stands for “say.” Have you ever considered that God wants to communicate with you?

Because He does and already has! God has sent you 31,173 messages (Bible verses) that most Christians leave unopened. How can you know what God wants for your life if you're not opening His messages? We're going to change that!

Here's how we can break down and better understand what God's word says. After reading a section in your reading plan, write a summary in your notes of that passage. Here is a summary example from John 3:1 - 21



A religious leader of the Jews named Nicodemus met with Jesus to understand His teaching. Jesus explained that His teaching and ministry were an extension of God's love and that Jesus is the one and only way to eternal life. Jesus further explains that the fruit of our lives shows whether we live in darkness or light.

Here are a few points to consider when summarizing a passage

- Always reflect on what the passage says the best you can.
- Put it in your own words. That will help you better understand and remember what you're reading.
- Keep it brief. Two to three sentences work great.



HOW CAN I *Obey* THIS PASSAGE?

The “O” in S.O.S. stands for “obey.” Whenever we open God’s word and truly seek His will, He will show it to us.

God has no interest in leaving us in the dark when we desperately long to obey Him and do His will. He looks forward to guiding us through His word in ways that light up every area of our lives.

God’s word applied to your life is like shining God’s light in your life.

Write a simple sentence about what it looks like to apply what you read. Be as specific as you can. Include names, times, and your plan of obedience. Don’t overthink this.

Let’s look at an example of this with the passage from earlier in John 3:1 - 21. Here is what obeying this passage could look like:



- Make decisions like Jesus comes back tomorrow (verse 2)
- Treat people like Jesus did (verse 11)
- Don’t expect to be treated better than Jesus was (verse 13)
- Show love with words AND works (verse 18)

God has new things to teach you daily and new ways He is calling you to apply His words to your life.



03

HOW CAN I *Share* THE TRUTH OF THIS PASSAGE?

The final “S” in S.O.S. stands for “share.” This is such an exciting step, and it should always come last.

Why? Because God’s Ministry is always to us before it is through us.

We can take notes from the airplane instruction videos before a plane takes off. Put your oxygen mask on first so that you have air before you help those around you. Both are important, but you can only do the latter with the former.

"BUT BE *Doers*
OF THE WORD,
AND NOT *Hearers*
ONLY, DECEIVING
YOURSELVES."

- JAMES 1:22

Bonus

OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES



PRIORITIZE YOUR PRAYER

Prayer is possibly the most underrated Bible study tool. Only those who know they need help from God to understand His word and His strength to obey it will turn to Him in prayer. Prayer is admitting to God that we can't do this without Him. I always start my Bible study time in prayer and ask the Lord to help me understand His word and apply it to my life.

PICKING A TRANSLATION

My personal preference in translation is the ESV. There are many reasons why I use this translation over others, but one of them being that “the translation was motivated by a belief that Scripture is sacred and that the words of the Bible are the very words of God.” (Crossway, 2021)

The best translation is the one you will read and understand.

PICK A TIME

This is another personal preference of mine but also backed by scripture. I choose to have my Bible study and prayer time first thing in the morning. Jesus modeled this for us throughout His ministry. For example, in Mark 1:35 (ESV):

“And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.”

There's nothing wrong with doing your Bible study at night, but I want to encourage you with this... If the Son of God woke up before the sun rose to spend time with the Father, how much more do you think we humans need time with God first thing in the morning? I believe the God who designed us deserves first dibs on our day.

"YOU WILL SEEK
ME AND *find me*
WHEN YOU SEEK
ME WITH ALL
YOUR *Heart.*"

- JEREMIAH 29:13

WHEN YOU SEARCH FOR *God* WITH ALL YOUR HEART,



He promises you will find Him. Here is a study that backs up God's promises with measurable percentages.

This study was conducted with 40,000 people using a specific "method" that could be beneficial to fighting anger, sadness, lust, self-confidence, addiction, and many other things.

After four consecutive days of using this "method," these were the results:

- Feeling lonely dropped 30%
- Anger issues dropped 32%
- Bitterness in relationships dropped 40%
- Alcoholism dropped 57%
- Sex outside of marriage dropped 68%
- Feeling spiritually stagnant dropped 60%
- Viewing pornography dropped 61%
- Sharing your faith jumped 200%
- Discipling others jumped 230%

The "method" they used was reading the Bible!

As you apply this guide to your daily Bible study, remember you may not see an immediate impact. But, by day four, watch God's Word change your life. I pray the tools in this guide impact your life like they have mine.

- GRANT TODD