

bible studies for 2023

Bible Studies for 2023: Deepening Faith in a Changing World

bible studies for 2023 offer a fresh opportunity for individuals, groups, and communities to engage more deeply with scripture amid the complexities of modern life. As the world continues to evolve rapidly, many are seeking grounding, wisdom, and spiritual growth through intentional study of the Bible. Whether you're a seasoned Bible scholar or just beginning to explore God's Word, 2023 presents new themes, resources, and approaches that can enrich your journey.

In this article, we'll explore the latest trends, tools, and insights in Bible studies for 2023, helping you navigate how to make the most of your time in scripture. From interactive study plans to digital resources and community-based learning, there's something to inspire every believer's walk.

Why Bible Studies for 2023 Matter More Than Ever

The pace of life today is faster and more demanding than ever before. With constant access to information and the pressures of social media, work, and global events, many people feel overwhelmed and disconnected from their faith. Bible studies for 2023 provide a vital way to pause, reflect, and reconnect with timeless truths that offer peace and guidance.

Spiritual growth isn't just about reading the Bible; it's about understanding, applying, and living out its teachings. In 2023, there is a growing emphasis on practical Bible study methods that help believers translate scripture into everyday life. This makes the Word of God not only relevant but transformative.

Connecting Scripture with Real-Life Challenges

One of the key focuses in current Bible study trends is addressing real-life issues such as mental health, relationships, social justice, and personal purpose through biblical principles. Many study guides and sermons now integrate these themes to help believers see how the Bible speaks directly into contemporary struggles.

By engaging with Bible studies for 2023 that tackle these topics, participants can find encouragement and solutions rooted in faith. This approach fosters a more holistic spiritual growth experience that goes beyond academic knowledge.

Top Bible Study Resources and Tools for 2023

The digital age has revolutionized how people access and engage with the Bible. For 2023, numerous innovative resources have emerged that cater to different learning styles and preferences. Whether you prefer reading, listening, or interactive formats, there's a tool designed to enhance your study experience.

Online Bible Study Platforms

Platforms like YouVersion, Bible Gateway, and Blue Letter Bible continue to expand their features, offering customizable reading plans, devotionals, and community discussions. In 2023, many of these platforms have integrated AI-driven study aids that help users understand difficult passages, explore original languages, and track spiritual growth over time.

Additionally, interactive study groups hosted on social media and apps allow believers to connect globally, sharing insights and prayers in real-time. This sense of community makes Bible studies more engaging and accountable.

Printed Study Guides and Devotionals

While digital tools are incredibly popular, printed materials remain a staple for many. New Bible study books released in 2023 often include journaling prompts, reflective questions, and thematic explorations tailored to today's world.

Notable examples include studies focusing on the fruits of the Spirit, navigating uncertainty with faith, and exploring the character of God through the Psalms. These guides are perfect for personal use or small group discussions, providing structure and depth.

Incorporating Bible Studies into Daily Life in 2023

Finding time for Bible study can be challenging, especially amid busy schedules. However, making scripture study a daily habit is key to spiritual growth. Here are some practical tips for integrating Bible studies into your routine this year:

- **Set a consistent time:** Whether it's morning quiet time or evening reflection, consistency helps build a habit.
- **Use thematic study plans:** Choosing a topic or book of the Bible that resonates with your current life season can increase engagement.
- **Combine study with prayer:** Letting prayer guide your reading invites deeper understanding and personal application.
- **Join or start a small group:** Sharing insights and challenges with others encourages accountability and community.
- **Leverage technology:** Use apps or podcasts for Bible studies while commuting or during breaks.

Balancing Depth with Accessibility

Many people worry that Bible study requires advanced theological knowledge. In 2023, there is a trend toward making Bible study accessible to all levels, with resources designed to explain complex concepts in simple, relatable ways. This democratization of scripture study invites more people to experience the joy and power of the Bible without intimidation.

Community and Bible Studies: Growing Together in Faith

One of the most enriching aspects of Bible studies for 2023 is the focus on community involvement. Whether through church groups, online forums, or neighborhood gatherings, studying the Bible together builds relationships and fosters mutual support.

Building Supportive Study Groups

Effective Bible study groups are inclusive, encouraging open dialogue and questions. They often incorporate diverse perspectives, which enriches interpretation and application. In 2023, many groups emphasize cultural relevance and emotional support, recognizing that spiritual growth happens best in safe, empathetic environments.

Virtual Bible Studies: Expanding Reach

The pandemic accelerated the adoption of virtual meetings, and this trend continues into 2023. Virtual Bible studies remove geographical barriers, enabling believers worldwide to connect and learn together. These digital gatherings often include video calls, shared study materials, and interactive chat features, making them dynamic and engaging.

Emerging Themes in Bible Studies for 2023

Each year, certain themes gain prominence as they resonate with contemporary concerns and spiritual needs. For 2023, several topics are particularly relevant:

- **Hope and resilience:** Addressing uncertainty and anxiety by focusing on God's promises and strength.
- **Justice and compassion:** Exploring biblical calls to care for the marginalized and promote fairness.
- **Identity and purpose:** Helping believers understand their unique role in God's plan.

- **Faith in action:** Encouraging practical steps to live out beliefs daily.

Engaging with these themes through Bible studies allows participants to grow in both knowledge and character, equipping them to face life's challenges with faith and courage.

Bible studies for 2023 are more than just a routine—they are a pathway to deeper connection with God, understanding of scripture, and meaningful community. Whether you choose to dive into an online plan, gather with friends, or explore a new devotional, this year offers abundant opportunities to enrich your spiritual journey.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the most popular Bible study topics for 2023?

In 2023, popular Bible study topics include mental health and faith, social justice in Scripture, the role of women in the Bible, and practical Christian living.

Which Bible study apps are trending in 2023?

Trending Bible study apps in 2023 include YouVersion Bible App, Bible Gateway, Blue Letter Bible, and Dwell, all offering interactive study features and devotionals.

How can I start a virtual Bible study group in 2023?

To start a virtual Bible study group in 2023, choose a platform like Zoom or Google Meet, select a study guide or theme, set a regular schedule, and invite participants through social media or church networks.

What are effective Bible study methods recommended in 2023?

Effective Bible study methods in 2023 include inductive study, SOAP (Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer), thematic studies, and using multimedia resources to enhance understanding.

Are there new Bible study curricula released in 2023?

Yes, several new Bible study curricula were released in 2023, focusing on contemporary issues like mental wellness, racial reconciliation, and environmental stewardship from a biblical perspective.

How is technology influencing Bible studies in 2023?

Technology in 2023 enhances Bible studies through interactive apps, online discussion forums, video lessons, and AI-driven personalized study plans, making Scripture more accessible and engaging.

What role does social media play in Bible studies for 2023?

Social media in 2023 serves as a platform for sharing daily devotionals, live Bible study sessions, community support, and spreading biblical teachings to wider audiences.

Can Bible studies in 2023 help with personal growth?

Yes, Bible studies in 2023 are designed to support personal growth by encouraging reflection, moral development, emotional healing, and deeper spiritual understanding.

Additional Resources

Bible Studies for 2023: Trends, Resources, and Impact

bible studies for 2023 have taken on new dimensions as digital transformation and evolving spiritual needs reshape how individuals and communities engage with scripture. This year, the landscape of Bible study reflects a blend of traditional exegesis and innovative approaches driven by technology, cultural shifts, and a growing desire for contextual understanding. As faith-based organizations, educators, and believers seek fresh ways to connect with biblical texts, the trends and resources emerging in 2023 offer a compelling investigation into contemporary religious education.

Emerging Trends in Bible Studies for 2023

The year 2023 has seen an increased emphasis on accessibility and interactivity in Bible studies. Online platforms and mobile applications have expanded the reach of scriptural engagement beyond conventional church settings. Simultaneously, there is a discernible shift toward thematic and topical studies, allowing participants to explore Scripture through the lens of current social, ethical, and personal challenges.

Digital Bible Study Platforms and Tools

One of the most significant developments in Bible studies for 2023 is the proliferation of digital tools designed to enhance study experiences. Apps like YouVersion, Olive Tree, and Logos Bible Software continue to update their interfaces, incorporating AI-driven search capabilities, personalized reading plans, and multimedia resources.

These platforms offer several advantages:

- Customized study plans tailored to individual interests and schedules
- Integration of commentaries, original language tools, and historical context
- Community features enabling group discussions and shared reflections

However, some critics point out that the abundance of features can overwhelm new users or divert focus from contemplative reading. Balancing technological engagement with spiritual depth remains a key challenge for digital Bible study tools.

Thematic and Contextual Approaches

In response to the contemporary relevance of scripture, many Bible study groups in 2023 are adopting thematic approaches, focusing on topics such as mental health, social justice, environmental stewardship, and leadership. These studies often combine biblical exegesis with practical application, fostering a holistic understanding of faith in everyday life.

This trend aligns with a broader movement toward contextual theology, where scriptural interpretation is informed by cultural and societal realities. For instance, studies on racial reconciliation or gender roles in 2023 often incorporate historical backgrounds and current events, making Bible studies more relevant and impactful.

Comparative Analysis of Popular Bible Study Programs in 2023

With an abundance of study programs available, discerning the most effective Bible studies for 2023 requires an examination of their pedagogical methods, accessibility, and community engagement.

Inductive Bible Study vs. Devotional-Based Studies

Inductive Bible study, which emphasizes observation, interpretation, and application, remains a gold standard for in-depth scriptural understanding. Programs like Precept Ministries International offer structured inductive study guides that encourage critical thinking and personal discovery.

Conversely, devotional-based studies prioritize daily reflections and personal spiritual growth. These often feature shorter readings and meditations, making them accessible to busy individuals. Popular devotionals in 2023, such as those from The Upper Room or Our Daily Bread, blend scripture with practical insights but may lack the analytical depth found in inductive studies.

Each approach serves different needs:

- **Inductive studies** foster comprehensive biblical literacy, ideal for church leaders and serious students.
- **Devotional studies** support consistent spiritual nourishment for a broader audience.

Group Bible Studies vs. Individual Study

Group Bible studies continue to be a cornerstone of faith communities, offering accountability, diverse perspectives, and social interaction. In 2023, many groups utilize hybrid formats combining in-person meetings with virtual sessions, accommodating varying comfort levels and geographic constraints.

Individual Bible study, empowered by apps and online resources, caters to those seeking personalized pace and focus. While solitary study allows deep reflection, it can lack the dynamic exchange found in group settings.

Evaluating the benefits:

1. **Group studies** encourage dialogue, support, and shared application.
2. **Individual studies** provide flexibility and tailored exploration.

Key Features to Consider When Choosing Bible Studies for 2023

Selecting the right Bible study resource or program requires attention to several factors that influence effectiveness and engagement.

Content Depth and Theological Perspective

Theological orientation—whether evangelical, mainline Protestant, Catholic, or non-denominational—can significantly affect interpretation and emphasis. In 2023, many seekers prefer studies that respect diverse viewpoints while maintaining scholarly integrity.

Moreover, the depth of content matters. Beginners might gravitate toward introductory studies, while advanced learners look for programs incorporating original languages, historical-critical methods, and theological reflection.

Interactivity and Multimedia Integration

Modern Bible studies increasingly incorporate videos, podcasts, quizzes, and interactive discussion boards. These elements cater to varied learning styles and can enhance retention and engagement.

Studies that successfully blend traditional reading with multimedia content tend to attract younger demographics and tech-savvy participants, a crucial consideration for ministries aiming to remain relevant.

Impact of Bible Studies for 2023 on Faith Communities

Beyond individual enrichment, Bible studies for 2023 play a vital role in shaping community dynamics and spiritual formation. They foster dialogue around pressing ethical issues, promote intergenerational learning, and encourage practical application of biblical principles.

Churches reporting growth often cite vibrant Bible study programs as a key factor. These programs serve as entry points for newcomers and venues for deepening existing members' faith. Additionally, the rise of online Bible study groups has enabled global connections, transcending denominational and cultural boundaries.

The evolving landscape suggests that Bible studies are not static exercises but dynamic conversations responsive to contemporary challenges and opportunities.

As the year progresses, the continued integration of technology, thematic relevance, and diversified formats will likely define the trajectory of Bible studies for 2023, ensuring that scripture remains a living, accessible resource for spiritual growth and community engagement.

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Grow your faith. Transform your life. Cultivate a deeper relationship with God through Adult Bible Studies. This resource, endorsed by the Curriculum Resources Committee of The United Methodist Church, offers a year-round, weekly Bible study plan for Sunday school classes and other small groups. Each weekly lesson offers background and focal Scriptures, key verses, and doctrinally sound and relevant biblical interpretation and application in a readable font size. Annual plans provide comprehensive coverage of the Bible, special lessons during the church seasons of Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter, and suggestions for developing spiritual practices such as prayer, worship, community, and service, among many others. Adult Bible Studies is a reliable companion and guide for learning and growing in Christian faith. With the help of the Adult Bibles Studies Student Book, Teacher/Commentary Kit, and DVD, your group will embrace that it's not just about learning - it's about living out biblical teachings. Additional information about Adult Bible Studies, Fall 2023 Theme: God Provides This fall, our Bible lessons follow the theme "God Provides" and remind us of the ways God meets our needs and of God's call to us to help those who lack life's essentials of food, water, and shelter. The writer of the student book Greg Weeks. Unit 1 Food Scripture recognizes that hunger, famine, and food insecurity make people vulnerable to a variety of threats. It also testifies to God's generous provision of food for humans and wild creatures and to human responsibility to help those who are hungry and in need. From God's provision of manna in the wilderness to divine provision during famine, from Jesus' feeding of crowds to his teaching of a new way of being with the poor and marginalized through table fellowship, Scripture bears witness to God's graciousness and our responsibility as its recipients. Bible lessons in this unit are based on

Exodus 16, 1 Kings 19, Mark 6, and Luke 14. Spiritual Practice: Feasting Unit 2 Water Like food insecurity, water insecurity threatens human life and the earth's species of plants and animals. Scripture uses the water motif in many ways. Water is dangerous as it represents a metaphor for chaos, historical enemies, God's judgment, devastation of drought-stricken land, and personal distress. As well, water is a gift from God for the flourishing of all creation, refreshment for body and soul, and source of eternal life embodied in Jesus. Thirst for water and provision of water are metaphors for the human relationship with God. Bible lessons in this unit are based on Genesis 21, Exodus 17, Psalm 42, John 7, and Matthew 25. Spiritual Practice: Creation Care Unit 3 Shelter In major cities and small towns across the country, many people have lived experience with homelessness. One of the major causes of homelessness is rooted in childhood trauma. Mental illness, sometimes stemming from such trauma, is another contributing factor, among others. Exploring the theme of shelter in Scripture cannot find ancient analogies for what today is becoming a crisis compounded by economic and social vulnerabilities. Even so, we can imagine and extrapolate, based on related themes and texts, that the physical security of home is a relevant theological construct then as now. Although various texts may make it easy to rush to focus our attention on spiritual shelter in God's presence, those who experience such a home in God find resources to extend hospitality and care through various means with those who today are experiencing homelessness. Bible lessons in this unit are based on Exodus 29, Psalm 27, Deuteronomy 8, and John 1. Spiritual Practice: Hospitality Visit AdultBibleStudies.com and sign up for the weekly newsletter to automatically receive the FREE Current Events Supplement and other information about these resources and more!

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Inspired by God This summer, our Bible lessons follow the theme “Inspired by God” and help us look at the careful design of Scripture and the art and poetry through which it touches our hearts and minds. They then move into a consideration of one of Scripture’s most practical categories, wisdom literature, followed by a look at some of Scripture’s heroes, who might surprise us. The writer of the student book is Betsy Haas; the teacher book writer is Stan Purdum. The Rich Literature of the Bible The lessons in this unit look at some of the different kinds of writings we find in Scripture and how God speaks to us through writings such as the Law, the prophets, visions, and the psalms. They invite us to dwell within Scripture’s reality rather than a reality of our own construction. Scriptures: Deuteronomy 28:1-2, 14 | Matthew 5:17-20 | Malachi 2:1-4 | Ezekiel 37:1-10 | Ephesians 2:4-7 | Psalms 51 | Colossians 3:16-17
Spiritual Practice: Study Wisdom Living with wisdom affects how we think, speak, act/ behave, relate to God, and relate to others. What constitutes wisdom according to the Bible is not conventional wisdom about how to stay safe and healthy or how to prosper in life. Conventional wisdom tells us not to give aid or comfort to an enemy, whereas biblical wisdom teaches us the opposite. Conventional wisdom tells us to store up our grain in barns for tomorrow, whereas biblical wisdom encourages us to share what we have with those whose need is for today. Scriptures: James 1:2-8 | James 3:1-12 | James 3:13-18 | 1 Corinthians 1:10-25 | Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
Spiritual Practice: Guidance | Spiritual Direction Heroes and Anti-Heroes The men and women of the Bible who “save the day” are not the typical heroes of Western mythology. They do not have superhuman powers; they are not mighty warriors; they are not descended from the gods. They are ordinary men and women who use their status and situation to serve God’s purpose or people in need. The people who tradition prefers to make into heroes of kings and warriors frequently disappoint us by using their power to serve themselves. Scriptures: Joshua 2:1-14 | Kings 11:1-13 | Mark 7:24-30 | John 13:21-30
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Sabbath In the secular West, the concept of holy days and sabbath have been replaced by days off work or school and vacations. We rest so that we can work harder and earn more money so that we can take vacations away from our community. In the Bible, rest from work had a different purpose. One worked to prepare for the sabbath. On the sabbath, one participated together with the entire community, the livestock, and the land in a shared rest that signified the well-being and abundance that God intended for creation. No one was required to work to make another's leisure possible. Sabbath rest is a foretaste of the rest that awaits us, and that God will provide in the fullness of time. Scriptures: Exodus 20:8-11 | Psalm 23 | Matthew 12:1-14 | Luke 4:16-21 Spiritual Practice: Self-Care Other Adult Bible Study components, sold separately, include: Student Book Each week's Student Book lesson lists background Scripture, features key verses, provides reliable and relevant biblical explanation and application, and more in a readable font size that is accessible to everyone. Included to help students go deeper into the lessons are : A comprehensive Bible study plan with more flexibility in terms of Scripture selection and topics Observation of the church seasons, including Advent and Lent Suggestions for developing spiritual practices (prayer, confession, worship, mindfulness, solitude, community, hospitality, neighbor, service, and celebration) No printed Scripture text allows you to choose your own Bible translation DVD/Video Does your group enjoy watching videos as a way to generate conversation around Bible studies? Would your teacher or group facilitator appreciate having the support of video hosts in setting the stage for Bible lessons? Then the Adult Bible Studies is just what you need. Each video, directly corresponding to the content in Adult Bible Studies, features 13 5-minute video segments. On each, one of our three hosts will provide some context for the lesson and then tie that content to personal stories and daily living. Your group can then connect more deeply with the material, draw closer to God, and discover ways to live out biblical teachings. Visit AdultBibleStudies.com and sign up for the weekly newsletter to automatically receive the FREE Current Events Supplement and other information about these resources and more!

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Power and Love This winter, our Bible lessons follow the theme “Power and Love.” The lessons first challenge us to try to understand Scripture, particularly the Nativity accounts, from the position of vulnerability and powerlessness. They then move to a closer look at what it means to belong to the family of God and culminate in a series of lessons on love and how it informs and changes our relationships. The writer of the teacher book is Taylor Mills. Unit 1 Power and Vulnerability God’s incarnation was into a poor family from a village of no consequence, vulnerable to the whims and machinations of the mighty Roman Empire. While some people reading this Bible study can relate to the poverty and obscurity, most will read it as citizens of a great world power. Some people know from experience that power can be abused even against a government’s own citizens, but others have known only the protection and benefits of that power. These lessons invite us to read the Nativity stories from the vantage point of the victims of empire. Scriptures: Judges 9:1-15; Matthew 1:1-25; Matthew 2:1-12; Matthew 2:13-15 Spiritual Practice: Acts of Mercy Unit 2 Power and Belonging The lessons in this unit follow the trajectory of biblical imagery for faith development from adoption through baptism and infancy in faith, into youthful excitement and exuberance, and then to a mature faith that struggles, challenges, and questions. Scriptures: Galatians 3:23—4:7; Luke 15:11-32; John 17:1-24 and Ephesians 4:14; Colossians 3:12-17; Matthew 22:1-14 Spiritual Practice: Rule of Life Unit 3 The Power of Love One of the distinct traits of biblical theology is the emphasis on God’s hesed (“lovingkindness”) and Jesus’ selfless love. In the early twentieth century, a great deal of ink was spilled trying to distinguish agápe love by which we become channels of God’s love from philía, friendship in which reciprocity is important, and éros, a passionate sort of love. Recent scholarship finds that Greek and biblical thought blurs the lines of agápe and philía and finds a greater emphasis on relationships. While we should enact our love without thoughts of personal gain, the ultimate goal of loving our enemies is becoming their friend. Scriptures: 1 John 4:7-21 and Ruth 4; 1 Kings 3:16-28; 1 Samuel 18:1-4, 19:1-7, 20; Matthew 16:21-28 Spiritual Practice: Spiritual Friendship Other Adult Bible Study components, sold separately, include: Student Book Each week’s Student Book lesson lists background Scripture, features key verses, provides reliable and relevant biblical explanation and application, and more in a readable font size that is accessible to everyone. Included to help students go deeper into the lessons are : A comprehensive Bible study plan with more flexibility in terms of Scripture selection and topics. Observation of the church seasons, including Advent and Lent. Suggestions for developing spiritual practices (prayer, confession, worship, mindfulness, solitude, community, hospitality, neighbor, service, and celebration). No printed Scripture text allowing you to choose your own Bible translation. DVD/Video Does your group enjoy watching videos as a way to generate conversation around Bible studies? Would your teacher or group facilitator appreciate having the support of video hosts in setting the stage for Bible lessons? Then the Adult Bible Studies is just what you need. Each DVD, directly corresponding to the content in Adult Bible Studies, features 13 5-minute video segments. On each, one of our three hosts will provide some context for the lesson and then tie that content to personal stories and daily living. Your group can then connect more deeply with the material, draw closer to God, and discover ways to live out biblical teachings. Visit AdultBibleStudies.com and sign up for the weekly newsletter to automatically receive the FREE Current Events Supplement and other information about these resources and more!

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despite our uncertainty and doubts. They also help us unpack the concept of “sabbath,” the foreshadowing of the rest that God promises at the end of our journey. Readings come from Old and New Testament texts. These daily readings, which prepare us for the lessons in Adult Bible Studies, are written by Susan Groseclose, Taylor Mills, and Greg Weeks. Unit 1 Journey to the Cross This Lenten season, we follow Jesus’ journey to the cross in Matthew’s account. Matthew’s Gospel stresses in many places that through his crucifixion, Jesus makes clear his perfect obedience to God’s will and the true nature of kingship under God’s reign. Scriptures: Matthew 16:21-28 | Matthew 20:20-28 | Matthew 21:23-27 | Matthew 22:15-22 | Matthew 22:41-46 Spiritual Practice: Simplicity | Accountability Unit 2 From Doubt to Trust We often treat doubt and wisdom as belonging in opposite categories but often, questioning our wisdom, knowledge, and certitude is a sign of wisdom. As humans, we should struggle to understand. To act with complete confidence in our power of discernment is to claim God’s power as our own. The path forward from doubt is one of trust in God. We are invited to imitate Jesus and let go of our doubt and our competition with God and to trust in God’s love and intentions. Scriptures: Matthew 26:36-46 | Matthew 28:1-15 | John 20:11-29 | 1 Corinthians 15:12-28 | 1 Peter 1:3-16 Spiritual Practice: Meditation Unit 3 Intentional Sabbath In the secular West, the concepts of holy days and sabbath have been replaced by days off work or school and vacations. We rest so that we can work harder and earn more money so that we can take vacations away from our communities. In the Bible, rest from work had a different purpose. One worked to prepare for the sabbath. On the sabbath, one participated together with the entire community, the livestock, and the land in a shared rest that signified the wellbeing and abundance that God intended for creation. No one was required to work to make another’s leisure possible. Sabbath rest is a foretaste of the rest that awaits us, and that God will provide in the fullness of time. Scriptures: Exodus 20:8-11 | Psalm 23 | Matthew 12:1-14 | Luke 4:16-21 Spiritual Practice: Self-Care

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A comprehensive Bible study plan and spiritual practices to deepen your relationship with God
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we have with those whose need is for today. Scriptures: James 1:2-8 | James 3:1-12 | James 3:13-18 | 1 Corinthians 1:10-25 | Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 Spiritual Practice: Guidance | Spiritual Direction Heroes and Anti-Heroes The men and women of the Bible who “save the day” are not the typical heroes of Western mythology. They do not have superhuman powers; they are not mighty warriors; they are not descended from the gods. They are ordinary men and women who use their status and situation to serve God’s purpose or people in need. The people who tradition prefers to make into heroes of kings and warriors frequently disappoint us by using their power to serve themselves. Scriptures: Joshua 2:1-14 | Kings 11:1-13 | Mark 7:24-30 | John 13:21-30 Spiritual Practice: Forgiveness Other Adult Bible Study components, sold separately, include: Teacher/Commentary Kit The Kit includes a Teacher Book and a Concise Commentary that are both supplementary and complementary to the Adult Bible Studies student book The Teacher Book provides small-group leaders, teachers, and facilitators with additional biblical background and exposition, and suggestions for guiding group discussion. Printed with a larger font for ease of reading. Included to help leaders prepare and lead each week: As a comprehensive Bible study plan with more flexibility in terms of Scripture selection and topics. Additional information, as well as suggestions, is designed to help leaders and facilitators lead with confidence. Observation of the church seasons, including Advent and Lent. Suggestions for developing spiritual practices (prayer, confession, worship, mindfulness, solitude, community, hospitality, neighborly service, and celebration). One font size in the student edition to accommodate all readers. No printed Scripture text allows you to choose your own Bible translation. The Concise Commentary provides biblical commentary for the focal Bible passages used in Adult Bible Studies. Based on the Abingdon Basic Bible Commentary. Printed with a larger font for ease of reading. Included each week are: The focal Bible passages for each Sunday. The unit introductions. Commentary on the focal Bible passages. A pronunciation guide for Bible names and places. DVD/Video Does your group enjoy watching videos as a way to generate conversation around Bible studies? Would your teacher or group facilitator appreciate having the support of video hosts in setting the stage for Bible lessons? Then the Adult Bible Studies is just what you need. Each video, directly corresponding to the content in Adult Bible Studies, features 13 5-minute video segments. On each, one of our three hosts will provide some context for the lesson and then tie that content to personal stories and daily living. Your group can then connect more deeply with the material, draw closer to God, and discover ways to live out biblical teachings. Visit AdultBibleStudies.com and sign up for the weekly newsletter to automatically receive the FREE Current Events Supplement and other information about these resources and more!

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biblical Commentary for the focal Bible passages used in Adult Bible Studies. The Commentary includes each Sunday's focal Bible passages, unit introductions, and expert Commentary on each passage. Plus, you can pronounce everything correctly with the included pronunciation guide for Bible names and places. Don't miss out on the opportunity to enhance your preparation and teaching with the help of these resources! With the help of the Adult Bibles Studies Student Book, Teacher/Commentary Kit, and DVD, your group will embrace that it's not just about learning - it's about living out biblical teachings. Additional information about Adult Bible Studies, Fall 2023 Theme: God Provides This fall, our Bible lessons follow the theme "God Provides" and remind us of the ways God meets our needs and of God's call to us to help those who lack life's essentials of food, water, and shelter. The writer of the teacher book is Clara Welch. Unit 1 Food Scripture recognizes that hunger, famine, and food insecurity make people vulnerable to a variety of threats. It also testifies to God's generous provision of food for humans and wild creatures and to human responsibility to help those who are hungry and in need. From God's provision of manna in the wilderness to divine provision during famine, from Jesus' feeding of crowds to his teaching of a new way of being with the poor and marginalized through table fellowship, Scripture bears witness to God's graciousness and our responsibility as its recipients. Bible lessons in this unit are based on Exodus 16, 1 Kings 19, Mark 6, and Luke 14. Spiritual Practice: Feasting Unit 2 Water Like food insecurity, water insecurity threatens human life and the earth's species of plants and animals. Scripture uses the water motif in many ways. Water is dangerous as it represents a metaphor for chaos, historical enemies, God's judgment, devastation of drought-stricken land, and personal distress. As well, water is a gift from God for the flourishing of all creation, refreshment for body and soul, and source of eternal life embodied in Jesus. Thirst for water and provision of water are metaphors for the human relationship with God. Bible lessons in this unit are based on Genesis 21, Exodus 17, Psalm 42, John 7, and Matthew 25. Spiritual Practice: Creation Care Unit 3 Shelter In major cities and small towns across the country, many people have lived experience with homelessness. One of the major causes of homelessness is rooted in childhood trauma. Mental illness, sometimes stemming from such trauma, is another contributing factor, among others. Exploring the theme of shelter in Scripture cannot find ancient analogies for what today is becoming a crisis compounded by economic and social vulnerabilities. Even so, we can imagine and extrapolate, based on related themes and texts, that the physical security of home is a relevant theological construct then as now. Although various texts may make it easy to rush to focus our attention on spiritual shelter in God's presence, those who experience such a home in God find resources to extend hospitality and care through various means with those who today are experiencing homelessness. Bible lessons in this unit are based on Exodus 29, Psalm 27, Deuteronomy 8, and John 1. Spiritual Practice: Hospitality Visit AdultBibleStudies.com and sign up for the weekly newsletter to automatically receive the FREE Current Events Supplement and other information about these resources and more!

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and Luke 14. Spiritual Practice: Attentive Listening Unit 2 Empowering | Discernment Bible lessons in this unit are based on Luke 1, Mathew 2, 1 Kings 3, and Daniel 2, 1 Thessalonians 5, Mathew 6, and John 12. Spiritual Practice: Discernment Unit 3 Faithful Prayer Bible lessons in this unit are based on 1 Thessalonians 5, Matthew 6, and John 12. Spiritual Practice: Confession Visit AdultBibleStudies.com and sign up for the weekly newsletter to automatically receive the FREE Current Events Supplement and other information about these resources and more!

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