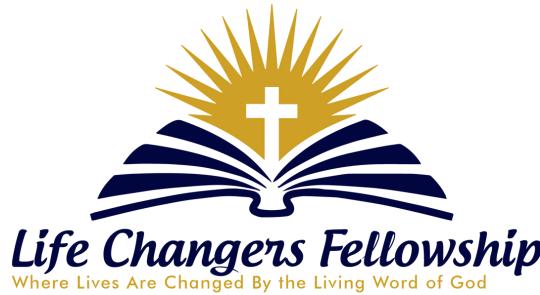


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| SERIES TITLE | STUDYING THE BIBLE FOR UNDERSTANDING & PRACTICE |
| SERIES FOUNDATION SCRIPTURE | <p>John 6:63 HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD BIBLE (HCSB) <i>The Spirit is the One who gives life. The flesh doesn't help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.</i></p> |
| SERIES REFERENCES | <p><i>How to Study the Bible: Practical Advice for Receiving Light From God's Word</i> Watchman Nee, 1999, Living Stream Ministry (ISBN: 978-0-7363-0407-8)</p> <p><i>How to Study the Bible</i> Robert M. West, 2007, Barbour Publishing (ISBN: 978-1-59789-706-8)</p> <p><i>How to Study the Bible</i> Dwight L. Moody, 2017 Updated Edition, Aneko Press (ISBN: 978-1-62245-456-3)</p> |
| OUR STUDY POINTS FOR THIS LESSON | <p>MAIN STUDY POINT One must settle with oneself that the Word of God is God truly showing Himself to us, and by doing so, He offers us life via the Spirit and infusing our spirits. John 6:60-63 / 2 Timothy 3:16-17</p> <p>METHODS PHASE Main Method Principle (Not a Method): Understand the Structure and Layout of the Bible Understanding the structure and layout of the Bible helps us with understanding what is being said, to whom it is being said, and what was intended by the Spirit. This leads us to understanding ultimately how a scripture, verse, or passage may be applied to our own lives.</p> <p>Tools to Help Us Learn More About Scripture</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> References in the Bible - When possible, get a bible with references. These are markings in the Bible that refer you to other verses, meaning of words, and more. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Example Verse from New International Version - Proverbs 8:22-23 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 22 "The Lord brought me forth as the first of his works, [c][d] before his deeds of old; 23 I was formed long ages ago, at the very beginning, when the world came to be. <p>* The [c] and [d] markings in verse 22 mean that there is additional information about parts of this verse. It could be a reference to another scripture or an explanation of a word or phrase. In this case, it is an explanation. When we look to the bottom of the page where those reference letters are, we see this:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Proverbs 8:22 Or way; or dominion Proverbs 8:22 Or The Lord possessed me at the beginning of his work; or The Lord brought me forth at the beginning of his work |



Tools to Help Us Learn More About Scripture

2. Concordances - This is a study tool that looks at words from their original language: Hebrew, Aramaic, or Greek. Most concordances certainly address the Hebrew and Greek as these are the primary languages for the Old Testament and New Testament, respectively.

FOR LESSON PURPOSES, WE ARE USING *THE STRONGEST NIV EXHAUSTIVE CONCORDANCE*.

Example Verse - Jeremiah 29:11 New International Version (NIV)

*For I know the **plans** I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*

Plans

- Look up this word in the concordance.
- Locate the scripture entry for Jeremiah 29:11 in the way it is worded in our Bible.
- To the right of the scripture entry, there will be numbers. These are our reference numbers for Hebrew (non-Italic) or Greek (Italic). This lets us know which dictionary we explore. In this case, it is the Hebrew to English portion of the concordance.

When we look in the concordance we see 3108 + 4742 as our Hebrew references. This means that we are to look at the meanings of both words that apply here.

3108 - *ḥāšab* (khaw-shav') - to plan, to purpose, to consider . . . purposed
KJV - *cunning, esteem*

4742 - *maḥāšabā* (makh-ash-aw-baw') or *machāshebeth* - imaginations, purpose, thought
KJV - *curious work, texture*

So, we could rephrase the first part of Jeremiah 29:11 as: "For I know the **purposed, curious work** I have for you," declares the Lord . . .

We could do this with every word of this verse and get a more "meaningful" understanding of what the Spirit intended.

3. Commentaries - These are deep studies of the Bible (as a whole) and of specific books. A commentary on Romans, for example. Commentaries cover chapter by chapter, verse by verse. It is a deep look! There are many commentaries available. Some are online, particularly those that are in the public domain (no copyright is applied as it is past the time for copyright restrictions).

- Matthew Henry Bible Commentary
- The Tony Evans Bible Commentary
- The MacArthur Bible Commentary
- King James Version Bible Commentary

Let's look at Jeremiah 29:11 from the Matthew Henry Complete Bible Commentary.
Biblestudytools.com