



Senior High-How to Study the Bible

Use the links and instructions below to prepare for discussion on April 22

Get access to RightNow Media through First Baptist
<https://accounts.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/FBCV>

Watch Session 5 & 6 of "How To Read the Bible" with Michael DeFazio

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/337996>

(5) **Study the world behind the text.** (Historical Background)

We must understand and honor the way God chose to communicate.

The Bible was God's word to them before it became God's word to us.

And to do this, we've got to close the gap between them and us.

How can you do this?

- ✓ Increase your general knowledge of the biblical world(s).
 - The Greco-Roman World by James Jeffers
 - Day of Atonement: A Novel by David deSilva
 - A Guide to the New Testament World by Albert Bell
 - Backgrounds of Early Christianity by Everett Ferguson
 - A Week in the Life of Corinth by Ben Witherington
 - In the Steps of Jesus and/or In the Steps of Paul by Peter Walker
 - Watch documentaries or miniseries on ancient Israel, Egypt, Mesopotamia, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, or the Roman Empire.

Identify and research persons, places, events, customs, etc.

- Inside the Bible itself
- Bible Dictionaries & Handbooks
- The IVP Bible Background Commentary series
- Study Bible Notes

What to look for:

- Using Hebrews 9 list:
 - People (author, readers, relationship)
 - Places
 - Events
 - Cultural habits and assumptions

How did this lesson help you interpret Scripture?

(6) Read each passage in light of Scripture as a whole.

If you could only give someone three chapters of the Bible, what would they be?

General Rules:

- Interpret unclear texts in light of clear ones.
- Don't ignore or disregard some texts to protect your misinterpretation of others.

Using Hebrews 9:

Question 1: What else does the Bible say about this chapter?

- Two kinds of "parallel passages"
 - When an author quotes or alludes to another text.
 - When two texts talk about the same thing.
- How to find them:
 - Cross-Reference Bibles or Websites
 - Concordance (search individual words)
 - Nave's Topical Bible (search topics or themes)

Question 2: How do the two sections in Hebrews 9 relate?

- Harmony or tension?
- If tension, how does it resolve?

Question 3: How does this text point to Jesus?

- The whole Bible is about Jesus.
 - Matthew 5
 - John 5.38-39
 - Luke 24.25-27, 44
 - Hebrews 1.1-2
- We're not looking for Jesus instead of the original meaning of the text.

Whatever is true, Jesus is . . .

Whatever is good, Jesus is . . .

Whatever is broken, Jesus came to...

- How does Hebrews 9 point to Jesus as Savior and Lord.
 - Jesus as Savior / receiving grace
 - Jesus as Lord / living as disciples