My Bible Study Notebook

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INTRODUCTION:

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”

Psalm 119:105

This is YOUR notebook, but it’s not just any notebook. In it you will discover ways that you can study God’s Word. Some of these ideas are things you have heard of before, and some of them are a little outside the box. It is very important to read the Bible, but we can’t stop there or we will miss out on some of God’s greatest blessings for us.

It is our goal that the activities in this book will give you the tools needed for a lifetime of Bible study. Eternal life is knowing God. The Bible helps us to not only know more about who He is, but to learn to have Him as our Lord, Savior and best friend. Every part of the Bible points to Jesus and it is our privilege to learn more about Him through its pages.
Have you ever read something that went in one ear and right out the other? I know I have. This section is filled with activities that help you stop and think about what you are reading. You may even be surprised how many of the stories you remember several months from now after doing these activities!
**MAKE A QUIZ**

Do you ever have to take a quiz in school? How do you usually feel about them? Are they too hard? Too easy? Do they ask all the wrong questions?

Well, now you can change all that. It’s your turn to write a quiz.

You’ll want to pull out your Bible and turn to the chapter(s) you just read to find some good ideas for questions.

Try and make the questions hard enough to stump your friends and family.

You can add your quiz to your notebook. You can even put the scores people got when they took your quiz.
They say a picture says 1,000 words. What about eight pictures?

For this activity you will need a pencil and colored pencils, markers or crayons.

Look through the chapter(s) you read, and write down the 8 most important parts of the story in order.

Draw each of the eight scenes in one of the storyboard boxes on one of the story board pages at the end of this section. Remember to include a short description of the pictures you draw under each box.
20 QUESTIONS

Think of all of the people you heard about as you studied the Bible this week. Choose one - any one. Once you pick a character you can't change your mind. Write that person's name down on the top of a piece of paper. On that same paper, answer all 20 questions about the person you chose.

1. Why did you choose this character?
2. Where is this person mentioned in the Bible (what verses)?
3. Is this a major character or a minor character?
4. Is this person a man or a woman?
5. Was this person rich or poor?
6. Was the person young or old in the story?
7. What role did this person play in the story?
8. How are you like this person?
9. How are you different?
10. What do you think he/she did right or wrong?
11. Was he/she faithful to God?
12. Would you have acted the same or differently than this person?
13. How?
14. How did this person respond to those around him/her?
15. Why do you think this person was included in the Bible?
16. Did this person allow the Holy Spirit to work through him/her?
17. What questions do you have about this person?
18. What questions do you have about what this person did?
19. What lessons did this person learn or teach someone else?
20. What can you learn from this person?
WRITE AN ARTICLE

Today your assignment for the New/Old Testament Gazette is to write about everything that has been happening. What are the events? What are the prophets saying? What is Paul writing about? You might want to review what you read to make sure you don’t leave anything out.

Use the newspaper print at the end of this section. Draw an image for your story too and don’t forget to include a caption!

Have fun.

Remember to answer the questions:

- Who
- What
- When
- Where
- Why
- How
WRITE A SUMMARY

So what really happened? Use the space below to write a summary of the events from your reading this week. Make sure your summary is at least five sentences, but no more than twelve. (Hint: If you’ve already filled up the box on this page, pull out a sheet of paper to do this activity again.)

So here’s how it happened...
MOLD AWAY

Pick a few scenes from the chapter(s) you just read and mold them out of clay. If you have some play dough or clay around, you can use that. If you don’t, you can use the recipe below to make your own modeling clay.

When you are done with your masterpiece(s), see if your family or friends can guess what your scenes are.

Ingredients
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup water (add more if necessary)

Directions
Mix dry ingredients
Mix water
Knead until Smooth — If you want softer dough, add more flour; for grainer dough, add more salt.
Optional: Use food coloring to make your dough different colors.
Store unused dough in plastic bag in the refrigerator
When your dough dries, it can be painted.
Make a Board Game

Have you ever made a board game before? What about a card game? Well, now’s your chance! Look back over the things you have been reading and turn them into a fun game. Here’s what you need to do.

1. First you’ll need to make the board. You can use a piece of cardboard, paper, or even an unfolded, empty cereal box. You need spaces to move on and maybe even some fun things along the way, like big scary giants (Numbers 13:26ff) or a sharp tongue (Hebrews 4:12).

2. Now you need to make game cards. You can use 3x5 cards or make your own by cutting paper. Think of things to write on the cards like: “You followed Moses into the ark, move forward 3 spaces,” or, “you gossiped about the girl next door, move back 2 spaces.”

3. Gather pieces. You can use a penny, nickel and dime, or you can cut out pieces from paper. You may need to grab some dice too, depending on your rules.

4. Gather some family or friends and have a great time!
MAKE A CARTOON FLIP BOOK

It seems like we often hear people talking about making the Bible come alive. Today, you will get to try your hand at making God's word come alive in a new way. Here’s how:

Directions:
1. Using your Bible's headings, or choosing from what makes sense when you read, break the chapter(s) you read into sections and write the section names on a separate piece of paper.
2. Choose one of the sections you just made.
3. Think about what story is being told in that section.
4. Start drawing pictures to illustrate the story, each on its own note card.
5. Make each drawing only slightly different.
6. When you flip through the note cards, it will look like everything is moving.

Example of Bouncing Ball:
MAKE A STORY BOOK

Sometimes we read the Bible and we feel like we’ve heard the stories many times. Did you know that some people have never heard these stories of Jesus’ love before? Make a story-book for someone who has never heard the chapter(s) you just read before. Write your story for kids ages 5-8 so that they can know about the Jesus’ love for all people. Here’s how:

1. Write the whole story from your reading in your own words.

2. Break up the story you wrote into sections. Your goal is to have about 10 sections.

3. Each section will be a page in your book. Write one section on the top or bottom of a plain white piece of paper, leaving plenty of room to add a full page illustration. (You can also type the words out and cut them out to glue to your pages, or you could type them directly onto the pages you want to use.)

4. Illustrate your pages.

5. Punch holes in the pages and tie string through the holes or put your pages in a three ring binder.

6. Share your book with all your friends and family.
MAKE A CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Some people have a lot of fun solving crossword puzzles, but have you ever MADE a crossword puzzle? This is your chance!

Step #1  Come up with at least ten questions from your reading that have a one word answer. It can be something like:

Q: What color was the cloth that Lydia sold?
A: When Paul and Silas met the slave girl, they were traveling to a place of _______.

Step #2  Use the graph paper at the end of this section to make your puzzle. With a pencil, write the words that make up your answers so that they are sharing letters. Use only one letter per box. Like this:

Step #3  Draw dark lines around the boxes with letters in them. Write numbers in the first box of each word. You will have numbers going across and numbers going down. Write your questions in the box on the bottom of the graph paper and make the question numbers match the numbers in the boxes.

Step #4  Erase your letters so that they can’t be seen. Give your puzzle to your parents or a friend to see if they can solve it.
MAKE A PUPPET SHOW

What you'll need:
- Popsicle or craft sticks or twigs collected from outside
- Paper
- Crayons, markers or colored pencils
- Scissors
- Optional: Other odds and ends like string

What to do:
1. Make a stick puppet for each person in your reading.
   Draw each person on paper, then cut them out. Glue a stick to the back of each character like this:
2. Make props you may need out of paper or other materials.
3. (Optional) Make one or two sets out of paper. Tape three pieces of paper or cardboard together and set the background up on a table. It might look something like this:

1. Bring your family and friends together for a puppet show.
   Have one person be the Bible narrator while you use the puppets and props you made to act out the story as it's read.

Have fun!
MAKE A DIORAMA

A diorama is a scene that is made in a box. They can be lots of fun to make! Create a diorama of a scene from the Bible passage you read. First, you will need to choose your favorite scene.

Next, it's time to start collecting. You'll need a box, some paper, glue, scissors, and all sorts of other things. Here are some ideas:

- Sticks
- Stones
- Buttons
- Cotton balls
- Grass

Once you have all your materials together, work on making your scene.

Be sure to bring your creation with you to Sabbath School so that you can share it with everyone!
Questions:
Questions:
Questions:
Studying the Passages:

Reading the Bible and remembering what it says is one thing. It’s another to truly study the stories to try to learn more about what God is telling us. If we study carefully and prayerfully, we can read the same part of the Bible again and again and learn something new each time.
Sometimes when we read through the Bible, it’s easy to miss some of the smaller details that mean so much. Take a minute to look at the reactions different people had to everything that was going on around them. Write one reaction in one column and someone else’s reaction in the other. What can we learn from the way these individuals acted? (Hint: If you’ve already filled up the box on this page, pull out a sheet of paper to do this activity again.)
EXPLORE THE MARGINS

Pick a small section from the chapter(s) you read in the Bible and have a Bible treasure hunt. The margins will tell you where to look. Think about how the verses in the margin connect with your section.

Look up at least five passages from the margin.

Don’t forget to write down all of your fun discoveries on a separate piece of paper!

Have you ever noticed all those texts listed either on the side or middle of the pages in your Bible? Those texts make up what is called your Bible’s marginal reference or cross references. The margin helps you to see how a Bible verse connects to other Bible verses. Sometimes the margin also explains words better.
LOOK IT UP

Did you run into any questions while you were reading? Maybe there were some puzzling words, or you want to know what else the Bible says about something you read.

Let’s find out what the Bible has to say! Look around your house for a concordance. You may even have one in the back of your Bible. If you can’t find one, you can go to biblegateway.com.

When you find a concordance, look up a word that relates to your question. Read at least five of the verses that are mentioned.

What did you learn? Write your responses below. (Hint: If you’ve already filled up the box on this page, pull out a sheet of paper to do this activity again.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verses I Looked up</th>
<th>What I learned</th>
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Do you know the difference between a Bible paraphrase and a translation? The goal of a translation is to look at the original language that a document was written in and then to write it as accurately as possible in another language.

A paraphrase puts the text in the authors own words, often in an attempt to make the meaning more clear. So a paraphrase may be easier to understand, but also less accurate.

Today you get a chance to write your own paraphrase of a chapter of the Bible. Choose one of the chapters you have been reading and write the whole thing in your own words.

What will you call your paraphrase?
**UNDERLINE KEY POINTS**

Have you ever been reading the Bible, when all of a sudden something catches your eye? It's like God's talking to you directly right then and there. Or maybe you can tell right away that what you are reading is most certainly important.

Sometimes when people are reading and that happens, they will **use a highlighter** to highlight that passage, or they will underline it with a pencil. This way if you ever need to find that passage again or want to go back and study it more closely later, it's easier to find.

Read through the chapter(s) you are studying again and find one key verse or several phrases to underline or highlight; then dig deeper by answering the questions below on a separate piece of paper.

1. Why did you highlight that particular passage?

2. How does that verse apply to you and your life?

3. Is this a verse you may want to memorize? Why or why not?
**Ponder and Question**

Why did the Holy Spirit come down like fire? Why did Joseph’s father favor him? What did the pillar of fire look like?

These may be just a few of the questions that you have when you read the Bible. Pick a small section from the chapter(s) you are reading and write as many questions as you can about the passage. Try for at least 10 questions.

**Verse by Verse**

As you review one small section from the chapter(s) you are reading, write down one thought, question or idea for each verse.

This is called verse-by-verse study. When you are done, read back over your notes. What have you learned? Did you notice any thoughts, ideas or questions that came up more than once?
Have you ever heard of a Venn Diagram? It’s a way to visually organize things that are alike and things that are different. You can use it to compare similar passages in the Bible as well.

Each circle represents one passage. You will use the space in the middle where the circles overlap to write things that are similar or mentioned in both passages. Things that are mentioned only in the first passage go in the first circle. Things that are mentioned only in the second passage go in the second circle. (Hint: If you’ve already filled up these circles, pull out a sheet of paper and draw your own circles to do this activity again.)
CAUSE AND EFFECT

"For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction."
~ Sir Isaac Newton

This is the third law of motion, but also a statement that can be applied to so much in our lives. In short, if you do something, something will happen. Sometimes this is referred to as cause and effect. As you look back over what you’ve been reading try to find examples of cause and effect. Write or draw a picture of the cause in the oval on the left. Then, write or draw the result on the right. (Hint: If you’ve already filled up these circles, pull out a sheet of paper to do this activity again.)

Saul was blinded on the road to Damascus

He fasted and prayed for 3 days and accepted Jesus Christ

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The Bible isn’t just about some things that happened to some people a long, long time ago. It has real-life meaning and practical application for us today! But if we don’t stop to make the connections between what we read and our own lives, we can miss out on the true blessings of God’s word. To help in seeing the connections, answer the following questions about the chapter(s) you read:

1. **Who** was involved?

2. **What** happened to them?

3. **Why** was this written in the Bible?

4. **How** can I learn from it?

You can use the provided worksheets on the following pages, or just answer the questions on a blank sheet of paper.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>WHO</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WHAT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HAPPENED</strong></td>
<td>to them</td>
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<td><strong>HOW</strong></td>
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<td><strong>WAS WRITTEN</strong></td>
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<td><strong>I LEARN FROM IT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>WHAT</td>
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<td>---------</td>
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<tr>
<td>was involved</td>
<td>happened to them</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Book

Chapter & Verse
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<tr>
<th>Who</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>Why</th>
<th>How</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Can I learn from it?</td>
<td>Was this written</td>
<td>Happened to them</td>
<td>Was I involved</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Book
Chapter & Verse
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>HOW CAN I LEARN FROM IT?</th>
<th>WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?</th>
<th>WHY WAS THIS WRITTEN?</th>
<th>WHO WAS INVOLVED</th>
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<td>ME</td>
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Applying the Message:

The Bible is like God's letter to us. He created us, so it is almost like an owner's manual and He wants to use His letter to change our lives and bless us. When we read and study the Bible it's important that we prayerfully ask questions like 'What does this have to do with me?' and 'What can I learn about God from reading this?' This section gives you some tools to help make the Bible real in your life.
WRITE A LETTER

Sometimes I wonder what it would be like to be someone from the Bible. I think of people like Peter, Timothy, Joseph, Esther and many more.

Find or make some stationery and pretend you are a person from the passages you read this week. Write a letter to a friend or family member. Tell the recipient what is happening. What have you seen? What have you heard? What do you think of it all? Don’t leave out any details.

PRAY THROUGH THE PASSAGE

Sometimes when we read the Bible, we come across passages that seem totally relevant to us. Maybe a Bible character is going through circumstances similar to ours, or maybe there is a Psalm that seems to say just what we are feeling. If you come across a Bible passage like that, you can pray it as your own prayer. As you read over the verses again, repeat them to God and add things that apply to you specifically.
DECIDE WHO'S LIKE YOU

As you've read the Bible throughout the years, I'm sure you've noticed that different people often react differently to the same situation.

Draw yourself in one of the boxes below and one of the people you read about this week the other. Below each picture box write how the person responded to his/her situation and how you would respond differently to the same circumstances. At the bottom, write the ways you would respond the same. (Hint: If you've already filled up the boxes, pull out a sheet of paper to do this activity again.)

Ways you responded:  Ways they responded:

Ways you would respond the same:
DIG DEEPER

It's so easy to quickly read though the Bible without ever realizing that God is actually talking to us. Here are three questions to help you dig a little bit deeper to find the true gems of God's word. One of the great things about these questions is that you can use them no matter where you are reading in the Bible. Answer all three questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What can I learn about God?
2. What can I learn about me?
3. What should I do about it?

WRITE IN A PRAYER JOURNAL

So you've just read the Bible. Don't get up yet! Pull out a journal or diary and start writing. Write a letter to God. Talk about the things you just read. Tell Him what you think. Ask Him about confusing parts. There is no limit to what you can talk to God about!
CHARACTER DIARIES

Take yourself back to the time and place of the Biblical world. If you were Noah, what thoughts would be going through your head as you float along in the ark? If you were Moses, what do you think you would have felt like after disobeying God about the water and the rock? How would you feel if you received one of the letters that Paul wrote to the early church?

Pretend that you are a character from the chapter(s) you’ve been reading. Write a diary entry with all of the things that have been going on in your mind.

GIVE MY OPINION

Everyone has an opinion. What’s yours? After you read a section of the Bible, finish these sentences on a separate sheet of paper.

I liked . . .
I didn’t like . . .
This part was confusing . . .
If we have the Bible available to us, why is it important to memorize the verses? I'll let the Bible speak for itself on this topic:

“How can a young man keep his way pure?
   By living according to your word.

   I seek you with all my heart:
   do not let me stray from your commands.

   I have hidden your word in my heart
   that I might not sin against you.

   Praise be to you, O LORD;
   teach me your decrees.

   With my lips I recount
   all the laws that come from your mouth.

   I rejoice in following your statutes
   as one rejoices in great riches.

   I meditate on your precepts
   and consider your ways.

   I delight in your decrees:
   I will not neglect your word.

~Psalm 119:9-16

The next few pages are filled with activities and ideas to help you hide God's Word in your heart.
**Note Cards Everywhere**

For this activity, you will need at least five 3x5 cards or pieces of paper.

Write your memory verse on each card that you have. When you are done writing, use tape to hang your verse cards up in places you will see them a lot.

Every time you see your verse, review it. You may even want to change out your cards half-way through the week, replacing some of the words with blank spots.

**Places to hang**
- Mirror
- Refrigerator
- Light Switch
- Shower

**Verses**
- Pet Food
- Lunch Box
- Desk
- Pillow
It is important that we grow in every area of life: spiritually, mentally, physically... you get the idea ☺. Here is a challenge that will give your physical, mental and spiritual health a jump start.

Pull out a jump rope and get hopping. Every time you jump, say the next word in your memory verse. Once you've got the hang of it, time yourself to see how fast you can get through the whole verse without messing up.

WRITE A SONG

This is a memory trick you've probably already heard of before, but it provides a lot of fun and is a huge booster to memorizing scripture.

Set your memory verse to music. Maybe there is a tune you already know that fits well with your verse, or maybe you can make up your own tune.

You can also do a rhythm instead, like in a nursery rhyme. Even if there is no tune, having a rhythm will make a huge difference—think of Humpty Dumpty.
CORRECT THE WORDS

In this activity, we are going to make a bit of a mess. Once you've chosen your memory verse, write it out a few different ways. First, write it with no punctuation, capitalization or spaces. When you are done, it will look something like this:

Once you have that one written out, write your verse again, but scramble every third word. This one is a bit tough, but when you are done, it should look a bit like this:

Now do two more—one that has no vowels and one that has no consonants. When you are finished lay the four verses in front of you.

Set a timer and see which one you can unscramble the fastest. Record your times and we'll see who did the best when we have Sabbath School this week!

My Top Times

Punctuation: No Vowels:

Word Scramble: No Consonants
WORD SCRAMBLE

Gather some paper and cut it into strips about 1-2 inches wide and about four inches long. Write one word from your memory verse on each piece of paper until you’ve written out the whole verse.

Mix up all of the pieces of paper you used and work to see how fast you can put them all in order.

Try racing against some of your friends. Can you do it in under a minute?

ILLUSTRATE A NOTE CARD

All you need is the verse you want to learn, a 3x5 card and markers or crayons. If you want you can also grab colorful papers and the like.

1. Write your memory verse on one side of the card.

2. Illustrate the verse on the other side of the card.

3. Carry this card around with you all week. When you have a spare moment, look over your verse and work on memorizing it. Use your illustration as a visual reminder.
WORD SEARCH

Do you like word searches? You can turn them into a fun way to learn your verse too! You can turn any memory verse into a word search with graph paper. Here’s How:

1. On a piece of graph paper, write all the words from your memory verse. They can be up, down or diagonal. You can even make some words connect.

2. Fill in all the leftover boxes with other random letters.

3. Have fun solving it a few days later or get your parents or friends to solve the puzzle.

You can find graph paper at the end of this section.

Q S Z K T W B L T V N D M T P Y A A
J E S U S O A N H A E H C N E P T
L U A S I V O H R M G E E E D N O O
G O K T H C F K A N M U K S R R S L
F E A R L E S S L Y A O O D O U T D
K H N A M E C B A S P B A R L O L H
T E H T Y U T N U S W H A L B J E I
O N V T S H D X L T A H Q S J E S M
D E H C A E R P M F H T X A Z K W G
Did you know that we see pictograms every single day? Road signs are examples of pictograms. A lot of other signs use pictures to represent ideas too. Can you think of one? A no smoking sign is an example. It is simply a cigarette with a big red circle and a slash through the middle.

Another example of a pictogram is ancient Egyptian writing—hieroglyphics.

Let’s take some time today to turn our memory verse into a pictogram. On another piece of paper, draw one big picture, or you can draw a picture for each part of the verse.

**POSTER**

It’s time to get your creative juices flowing. Have fun turning your memory verse into pictures as you make a poster. Try to make the poster so good that other people can guess what your memory verse is as well just by looking at your creation. You can combine this activity with the pictogram activity above.
MEMORY WALK

All you need for this activity is two legs, your memory verse written on a card and a little bit of time.

Take your memory verse with you on a walk. Each time you take a step, say the next word in the verse.

For example:

Step 1: But
Step 2: God
Step 3: Raised
Step 4: Him

When you get back from your walk, you just might have the whole verse memorized.

To add even more fun, take a pedometer with you and count how many steps it takes you to learn the whole verse.
Do you like putting puzzles together? What about making them?

1. At the end of this section, there are two puzzle templates. Choose the one you want to use and cut out around the edge. (Don’t cut the pieces out yet.)

2. Write your memory verse on the blank side of the page. If you’d like you can leave room to draw a picture as well.

3. Cut the pieces out of the puzzle.

4. If you put this puzzle together every day, you’ll probably learn your memory verse by the end of the week!

5. Make sure to have others try to put together your puzzle creation too.
This memory activity will take you on a journey to your kitchen! Scrounge around for beans, rice, dried pasta, anything to add to your memory creation (you can even use hard candies).

Next, grab a piece of paper, a Bible and some glue. Use the items you found in the kitchen to spell out your memory verse on the paper. Glue all the pieces down.

Place your creation in a prominent spot so you can see it well. Each day, as you review your verse, pick off one or two of the food words to leave a blank space on your creation. By the end of the week, you should be able to say the verse with all the words gone.

Have fun!