

'16-'17 Women's Ministry Large Group Meetings

How to *STUDY* the *BIBLE* with both
OUR HEARTS and *OUR MINDS*

Women's
ministry

Grace Bible Church
9115 Lorton Station Blvd.
Lorton, VA 22079

www.gracebiblelorton.com/women/



October 22, 2016

Study With Purpose ~ Chapter 3 pages 49-58

1. Based on what you learned in chapter 3, define the Big Story of the Bible in your own words.
2. Next to each of the following elements of the metanarrative, note a story or passage from Scripture that you think lends itself to telling that part of the Big Story.

Creation

Fall

Redemption

Restoration

October 22, 2016 *Study With Purpose* Continued

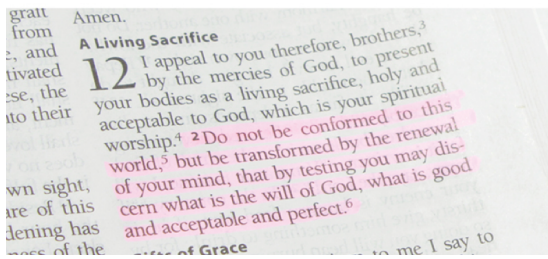
3. Jen says on page 57, "The knowledge of God and the knowledge of self always go hand in hand." When we look for self-knowledge without God as our reference point, to what or to whom do we compare ourselves? What is the result? How does comparing ourselves to God yield a truer knowledge of self?
4. Which genre of the Bible (Narrative, Law, Poetry, Wisdom Literature, or Prophecy) have you found especially difficult to study in the past? How might the concept of metanarrative help you study this genre in the future?
5. Which genre of the Bible (Narrative, Law, Poetry, Wisdom Literature, or Prophecy) have you found easily accessible? How might the concept of metanarrative change or deepen the way you study this genre in the future?

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'16-'17 Women's Ministry Large Group Meetings

How to **STUDY** the **BIBLE** with both
OUR HEARTS and **OUR MINDS**

January 21, 2017

Study With Perspective ~ Chapter 4 pages 59-72

1. How does knowing who wrote the Chronicles of Narnia add to our understanding of how it should be read? How does knowing who wrote the Gospel of Matthew add to our understanding of how it should be read? What key difference would you note between these two authors?
2. Jen says, "The message of the Bible transcends its original audience, but it cannot be severed from its original audience" (p. 67). What does this mean?

January 21, 2017 *Study With Perspective* Continued

3. What is the pitfall to be found in the misapplication of Wisdom Literature (p. 69)? Have you ever found disillusionment this way? How does understanding the rules of the genre help you apply a proverb?
4. What is the difference between using a tool like a study Bible (as described in this chapter) and taking the Personal Shopper or Telephone approach (as described in the previous chapter)?

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February 18, 2017

Study With Process - Part 1: Comprehension & Interpretation ~ Chapter 6 pages 85-101

1. What type of approach do you usually take to a project—a willy-nilly creative approach or a process-driven builder approach? How does your typical approach shape the way you think about Bible study?
2. Which of the comprehension tools Jen suggests (a printed copy of the text, repetitive reading, annotation, a dictionary, other translations, and outlining) do you think will be most helpful to you? Are there any you've already been using, or ones you'd never thought of?

February 18, 2017 *Study With Process* Continued

3. What is the most practical, take-away step you found in this chapter? How are you going to implement it in your own study time?
4. Have you experienced the joy of drawing your own conclusion about the meaning of a text after studying it? Why is it important to consult commentaries only after seeking to find the interpretation yourself?
5. On page 100, Jen describes Bible study as a process of creating and maintaining an orderly, beautiful place within our hearts where the Lord may dwell, similar to the process of building the tabernacle. How does this description give you a new view of study? How does it encourage or inspire you?

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March 18, 2017

Study With Process - Part 2: Application ~ Chapter 6 pages 85-101

1. How does our application of the Bible change when we look to God as our reference point? How is knowledge of God meant to effect change in our lives?
2. When you apply the Bible to your life, do you tend to focus more inward (on how the Bible is meant to change you to be more like Christ) or outward (on how God is calling you to impact others to be more like Christ)? Why are both of these important? What happens when we emphasize one at the expense of the other?

March 18, 2017 *Study With Process* Continued

3. Which sphere of change do you normally focus on the most: Head, Heart or Hands? Why?

Which sphere(s) do you want to start paying more attention to and how might that adjustment impact you for the better?

4. Why is it so important to remember the gospel during the stage of application?
5. How has Psalm 1 impacted you personally so far? What is one thing you desire to change, with God's help, as a result of this passage?

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May 20, 2017

Pulling It All Together ~ Chapter 8 pages 109-125

1. The comprehension phase will take a lot of time. How will you combat your frustration/impatience at this stage? Which method in the comprehension process do you think will be most enjoyable or rewarding? Which will test your patience the most?
2. Why do you think Jen specifies cross-references, paraphrasing, and commentary in that order in the interpretation stage (pp. 117-19)? What difference does the order make?

May 20, 2017 *Pulling It All Together* Continued

3. What other types of application, besides God-centered application, do we tend to jump to? Why do we need to start with God-centered applications?

4. "Fight for your own personal contact with the text before looking to other sources for help" (p. 123). Why is this so important when we study Scripture?

5. What are some benefits of sharing your study with a group? Which one appeals to you the most? Which do you need the most?

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Psalm 1 ESV

The Way of the Righteous and the Wicked

[1] Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

[2] but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

[3] He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

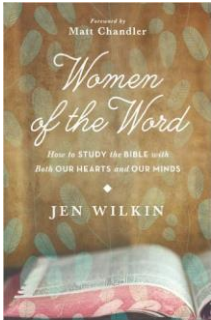
[4] The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

[5] Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

[6] for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

RESOURCES

Women of the Word: How to Study the Bible with Both Our Hearts and Our Minds by Jen Wilken **Publisher's Description**



We all know it's important to study God's Word. But sometimes it's hard to know where to start. What's more, a lack of time, emotionally driven approaches, and past frustrations can erode our resolve to keep growing in our knowledge of Scripture. How can we, as Christian women, keep our focus and sustain our passion when reading the Bible?

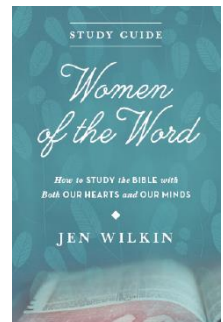
Offering a clear and concise plan to help women go deeper in their study of Scripture, this book will equip you to engage God's Word in a way that trains your mind and transforms your heart.

About the Author: Jen Wilkin is a speaker, writer, and teacher of women's Bible studies. She has organized and led studies for women in home, church, and parachurch contexts. Jen and her family are members of the Village Church in the Dallas area.

Email: women@gracebiblelorton.com to purchase from the church via check or cash of \$7.00 and pick-up on Sunday or at the church office Tuesday through Friday 9am to 5pm.

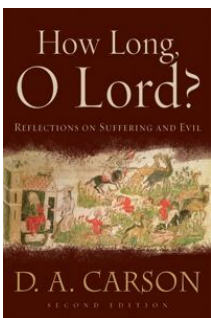
Study Guide for Women of the Word by Jen Wilken

Free downloaded resource from <http://jenwilkin.blogspot.com/p/bible-study.html> or the church website women's page <http://www.gracebiblelorton.com/women/>



The Gospel Coalition: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/>

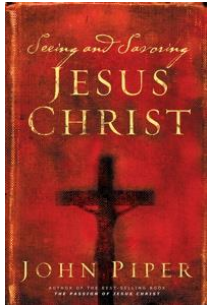
The Gospel Coalition is a fellowship of evangelical churches deeply committed to renewing our faith in the gospel of Christ and to reforming our ministry practices to conform fully to the Scriptures. We yearn to work with all who, in addition to embracing our confession and theological vision for ministry, seek the lordship of Christ over the whole of life with unabashed hope in the power of the Holy Spirit to transform individuals, communities, and cultures.



How Long, O Lord? Reflections on Suffering and Evil by D.A. Carson **Publisher's Description**

This clear and accessible treatment of key biblical themes related to human suffering and evil is written by one of the most respected evangelical biblical scholars alive today. Carson brings together a close, careful exposition of key biblical passages with helpful pastoral applications. The second edition has been updated throughout.

RESOURCES



Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ by John Piper

Publisher's Description

Who is Jesus Christ?

You've never met him in person, and you don't know anyone who has. But there is a way to know who he is. How? Jesus Christ—the divine Person revealed in the Bible—has a unique excellence and a spiritual beauty that speaks directly to our souls and says, "Yes, this is truth." It's like seeing the sun and knowing that it is light, or tasting honey and knowing that it is sweet.

The depth and complexity of Jesus shatter our simple mental frameworks. He baffled proud scribes with his wisdom but was understood and loved by children. He calmed a raging storm with a word but would not get himself down from the cross.

Look at the Jesus of the Bible. Keep your eyes open, and fill them with the portrait of Jesus in God's Word. Jesus said, "If anyone's will is to do God's will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority." Ask God for the grace to do his will, and you will see the truth of his Son.

John Piper has written this book in the hope that all will see Jesus for who he really is and will come to enjoy him above all else.

Also available as a free pdf download at www.desiringgod.org/books.seeing-and-savoring-jesus-christ.



Look and Live: Behold the Soul-Thrilling, Sin-Destroying Glory of Christ by Matt Papa

Publisher's Description

Only One Addiction Can Set You Free

Matt Papa was a "professional Christian" in full-time ministry, ready and determined to change the world. All the while he was depressed, addicted to the approval of others, and enslaved to sin. But then everything changed. He encountered the glory of God.

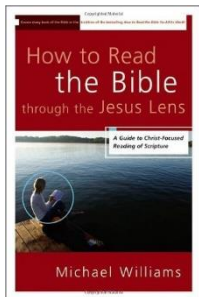
All of us live in the tension between where we are and where we ought to be. We try our best to bully our desires into submission. And we all know, this is exhausting.

Are you tired? Stuck? Still fighting the same sin you've been fighting for years? The call in these pages is not to work or to strive, but to lift your eyes. You don't need more willpower. You need a vision of greatness that sweeps you off your feet. You need to see glory.

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

2016-17 Women's Large Group Meetings • Grace Bible Church of Lorton, Virginia

RESOURCES



How to Read the Bible through the Jesus Lens: A Guide to Christ-Focused Reading of Scripture by Michael Williams

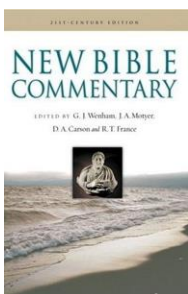
Product Description

Many Christians today experience Bible teaching in isolated, unconnected pieces, receiving little or no guidance into how these pieces form a coherent picture in Christ. *How to Read the Bible through the Jesus Lens* presents Christ as the central focus of each biblical book and the primary way the Bible relates to contemporary circumstances. Each book of the Bible has an identifiable theme ultimately fulfilled in the person and work of Christ.

Williams provides the following for his readers:

- A succinct statement of the theme of every biblical book
- An explanation of how that theme finds its focus in Christ
- A brief discussion of how the New Testament treats that theme as fulfilled in Christ
- Suggestions for contemporary implications
- A convenient summary chart

An excellent tool for Bible teachers, ministry leaders, and students, *How to Read the Bible through the Jesus Lens* facilitates other Christian disciplines such as Bible reading, Scripture memory and evangelism. By demonstrating how each theme relates to living the Christian life, this book promises to be an invaluable guide for reading and understanding the Bible.



New Bible Commentary: 21st Century Edition by Gordon J. Wenham

Publisher's Description

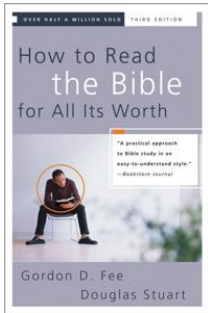
For 40 years, the *New Bible Commentary* has set the standard for works of its kind. Now in this completely revised fourth edition (including over 80% new and updated material), the *New Bible Commentary* is positioned to maintain its standing as the leading one-volume commentary on the whole Bible well into the 21st century.

This readable and accessible volume brings together many of the finest scholars of our day to meet the needs of students, teachers and Bible readers. The 21st-century edition of the *New Bible Commentary* offers 66 solid, concise, evangelical commentaries--one on each book of the Bible. These detailed (passage-by-passage or verse-by-verse) commentaries, based on the NIV text, are accompanied by introductory material on date, authorship, purpose, key themes, outlines and discussions of recent developments in biblical scholarship. In addition seven articles overview biblical history and types of biblical literature, including the Pentateuch, poetry, the Gospels, the Epistles, and the Apocrypha and other apocalyptic writings.

Completely updated for a new generation of readers, the new *New Bible Commentary* will be a powerful aid for all who want to understand the foundational book of the Christian faith.

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RESOURCES



How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth by Gordon D. Fee & Douglas Stuart

Product Description

Understanding the Bible isn't for the few, the gifted, the scholarly. The Bible is accessible. It's meant to be read and comprehended by everyone from armchair readers to seminary students. A few essential insights into the Bible can clear up a lot of misconceptions and help you grasp the meaning of Scripture and its application to your twenty-first-century life.

More than three quarters of a million people have turned to *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth* to inform their reading of the Bible. This fourth edition features revisions that keep pace with current scholarship, resources, and culture. Changes include:

- Updated language for better readability
- Scripture references now appear only in brackets at the end of a sentence or paragraph, helping you read the Bible as you would read any book—without the numbers
- A new authors' preface
- Redesigned and updated diagrams
- Updated list of recommended commentaries and resources

Covering everything from translational concerns to different genres of biblical writing, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth* is used all around the world. In clear, simple language, it helps you accurately understand the different parts of the Bible—their meaning for ancient audiences and their implications for you today—so you can uncover the inexhaustible worth that is in God's Word.



A Christian's Pocket Guide to Loving The Old Testament: One Book, One God, One Story by Alec Motyer

Publisher's Description

Many of us know and love the stories and characters of the Old Testament such as Joseph, Moses and Jonah. But how do we view its importance in relation to New Testament teaching and our 21st century experiences? This accessible yet powerful addition to the Pocket Guide series draw together the threads of Scripture to help us understand the power of God's word when viewed in its completeness.

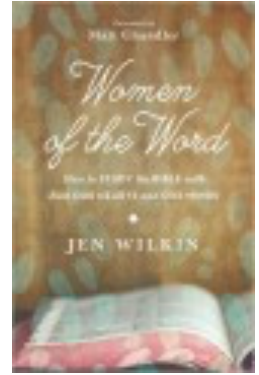
About the Author: Dr. Alec Motyer is a well-known Bible expositor and from an early age has had a love for studying God's Word. He was formerly principal of Trinity College, Bristol.

Large Group Meeting Dates

The 2016-17 Women's Large Group Meetings will focus on equipping women to study the Bible using selected chapters from Jen Wilken's book *Women of the Word*. Listen to the overview from the 9/24 meeting on the church website www.gracebiblelorton.com/women/

Email: women@gracebiblelorton.com to purchase from the church via check or cash of \$7.00 and pick-up on Sunday or at the church office Tuesday through Friday 9am to 5pm.

The meetings are informal & casual with no pre-registration necessary and while childcare is not available nursing babies are welcome.



9 am to 11 am ~ SATURDAYS

October 22, 2016

Study With Purpose ~ Chapter 3 pages 49-58

Mini-Conference November 18 & 19, 2016



Break for Christmas

January 21, 2017

Study With Perspective ~ Chapter 4 pages 59-72

February 18, 2017

Study With Process - Part 1: Comprehension & Interpretation ~ Chapter 6 pages 85-101

March 18, 2017

Study With Process - Part 2: Application ~ Chapter 6 pages 85-101

Break for Easter

May 20, 2017

Pulling It All Together ~ Chapter 8 pages 109-125