

APPENDIX B: HOW TO DEVELOP YOUR OWN BIBLE STUDY

In the development of this Bible Study Guide I took a passage of Scripture and broke it down into small bite-sized pieces, and then focused on a few key areas of its study:

- Analyzing the Text
- Defining the Terms
- Investigating Usage Elsewhere
- Completing Reinforcement Activities

This can be applied to any passage of study you decide to do on your own.

The primary tool used to generate all the exercises in this book was the Bible software program: e-**Sword**, available for free at <http://www.e-sword.net>. (highly recommended)

Other helpful online resources I've used are <http://www.BlueLetterBible.org>, <http://www.BibleHub.com>, and <http://www.BibleGateway.com>.

But if you don't have access to a computer or other internet device, you can still create your own Bible study with relative ease.

For a **Basic Study**, you would simply need:

- an **Open and Inquisitive Mind**
- a **Bible**
 - I used the *King James' Version (KJV)* as my main source.
 - I also prefer to include the *Young's Literal Translation (YLT)*.
- a **Concordance**
 - I used *Strong's Concordance (coded to the KJV)*.
 - While I don't often refer to anything else, I also have in my personal library:
 - *Young's Concordance (coded to the YLT)*
 - *Englishman's Hebrew Concordance*
- a **Hebrew Lexicon / Dictionary** (or Greek if studying the New Testament)
 - I used *Brown-Driver-Briggs' Hebrew-English Lexicon (BDB)*.
 - I also have:
 - *Jeff Benner's Ancient Hebrew Lexicon of the Bible (AHLB)*
 - *Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon*

For an **Enhanced Study** you can include:

- a **Hebrew text coded with Strong's numbers**
 - I used the *Hebrew Old Testament* plus Strong's' numbers (HOT+) provided by e-Sword.
- a **variety of English translations** of the same source text
 - I used the *American Standard Version (ASV)* and *English Standard Version (ESV)* translated from the *Hebrew Masoretic Text (MT)*.
 - I have many other translations as well.

[NOTE: Some versions of the Bible are translated word-for-word, whereas others are thought-for-thought. I prefer word-for-word translations. Beware of versions of the Bible often thought to be translations, which are more interpretive than translative.]

- an **English translation of an alternate source text**
 - I used the *Brenton* translation of the Greek *Septuagint (LXX)*.
 - I also have (and often refer to):
 - the *Lamsa* translation of the *Aramaic Peshitta*
 - the *Israelite Samaritan version of the Torah*

The biggest key, I believe, in doing any Biblical study is to remain humble and teachable...and continually seek to understand. While knowing things can be good, I believe understanding them is even better. And when we understand what the Bible is saying, our discernment grows.