

S.O.A.P. Journal Bible Reading Method

As you read scripture, write down what God is showing you in the following categories.

S - Scripture

- Write out a verse or passage that stands out to you

O - Observation

- Establish the context to begin with - Who is the author of the book?, Who is the author writing to?, Why is the author writing?
- Write what the verse or passage says in context - What comes before the verse or passage, What come after the verses or passage, Note repetition of words, phrases, Cause-and-effect/*ifs* and *thens*, Questions and answers, Comparisons and contrasts, Bring to mind other verses/passages in Scripture (Cross Referencing), Themes, Key phrases in an effort to best interpret what is being communicated
- Questions to ask and answer like - What does this say about God? Or What does this passage say about Jesus? are also great observations

A - Application

- How this passage applies to you
 - What can I worship God for?
 - How does this cause me to look to Christ?
 - What would change if I truly believed this?
 - Is there a sin to forsake?
 - Is there a promise to claim?
 - Is there an example to follow?
 - Is there a command to obey, something to put into action?
 - Is there something to be thankful for?
 - Is there something to share with others?

P - Prayer

- Write out a prayer to God about what He has shown you
- Pray the scripture over your life, others, and your prayer list