

PRINCIPLE APPROACH®

Word Study Standard

✠ RESEARCH ✠

✠ REASON ✠

✠ RELATE ✠

✠ RECORD ✠

The Word Study is more than going to a dictionary and defining a word. It is the tool of Biblical scholarship that guides the researcher down a pathway of *reflective thinking* and *deductive reasoning* derived from the revelation of Scripture. The Word Study places the Truths of God's Word at the center of learning, which *illuminate the understanding* and *consecrate the mind*. Therefore, the purpose is to know God, His Word and the subject rightly.

TOOLS:

- Webster's 1828 *Dictionary*
- Black or blue ink pen
- Concordance
- Bible

WORD STUDY FORMAT:

1. Identify the MAIN WORD to be studied by writing it as the title. Skip one line after the heading elements and write the main word in the center of the page. Skip another line after the title.
2. Record the part of speech and significant elements of the etymology. Always go to the root or base word for the etymology if the main word is a derivative or form of the root. Write the words which appear in *italics* in print; otherwise, use cursive writing when recording unless permission to work in electronic format is granted.
3. Read all the definitions given for the main word. Record the definitions most appropriate for the given usage/application of the word to the present study. Record the examples of usage only if they particularly relate to or enlighten the study.
4. Underline key words within the definitions. Remember that key words unlock the meaning of the MAIN WORD definition by enlightening the understanding with added depth and dimension.
5. Read the etymology and definitions of each key word. Record the elements of the etymology and the definitions that best relate to the purpose of the MAIN WORD study by following steps 1–4 above for each key word.
6. Using a concordance, find relevant Scriptures that apply to the MAIN WORD, key words, or greater concepts being studied. Record the full text and citations for several verses to gain a full understanding of God's principles and a Biblical view of the subject or study at hand. Record additional citations as deemed helpful.
7. Record a personal definition/application essay of the word studied.
8. Record a list of Biblical principles discerned from the study written in complete sentences.