

S.P.E.C.K. a strategy for approaching the Scriptures in order to lose yourself in them

step one

- Ask God before you study to open your mind and soul, to flood you with light so that you can apprehend the light of God's Word. His Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, but sometimes it seems as if we need a light from God to even help us get to the light . . . Psalm 119:18, Psalm 119:36, Psalm 86
- Sometimes it even helps to listen to a good song that makes your heart get a little tender and more ready to open the Bible.

step two

- Choose a section of Scripture to study – it can be something like the verses of the day from “Our Daily Bread,” or it can be a certain book of the Bible that you want to go through verse by verse.
- Read the passage slowly and carefully, and don't expect to feel real excited, just read it.
- Have a piece of paper ready with a pen, and get ready to look for the following – **SPECK**

Sin to Confess – As you look at these few verses, ask yourself if the passage of Scripture has any mention of sin, wrongdoing or evil. Jot down anything you can find. Don't worry about how much time you have spent so far; just concentrate on the assignment.

Promises to Claim – Next, go over the same verses and look for any promises that are mentioned. Write down any you find and ask yourself what God is promising in these verses.

Example to Follow – The third part of the study is to look for any examples that are shown in the verses. Is there someone doing something that is a good example, or is there an example to not follow? Write down any examples either way.

Commands to Obey – Next, look for any commands that are listed and write them down. Try to notice if they are positive commands (to do good) or negative commands (things to avoid).

Knowledge of God to Apprehend – This is very important, because we are trying to develop our relationship with a person – with Jesus – and so we want to see what we can learn about Him as we read these verses. (Not every passage of Scripture is going to have all five points of **SPECK** in them. You don't have to worry if you don't find it all, because tomorrow there will probably be a different pattern when you study.)

step three

- Take your notes and pray through them in the following manner – **ACTS**

Adoration – what is there that you have just learned from God that you can pray back to Him about who He is?

Confession – what should you confess about your life and falling short of God's glory based on what you read? (It is normal to find yourself falling short; that's why Jesus came to earth – to heal us.)

Thanks – what are you thankful for, based on what you read? Even if you don't feel very thankful, what can you pray back to God about what you should be thankful for or what you wish you were thankful for?

Supplication – Requests **JOY**

Based on what you read, what requests would **Jesus** want you to make to him?

Based on what you read, what should you pray about for **others**?

Based on what you read, what should you ask God for in regards to **your own life**?