

UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE ASSIGNMENT GUIDE

Studying the Bible can be daunting. In this session, we'll work toward a better understanding of the layout, themes, people, places, and stories of the Bible. Knowledge won't be enough; we'll also do our best to apply it to our lives.

VERSE

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”

(Matthew 7:24)

This verse should be used for memorization or meditation until the next meeting.

CONTEXT | MATTHEW 7

In chapter 7 of his Gospel, Matthew tells of a time Jesus compared home builders to people of faith. A foolish person would build a home on sand, and a wise person would build a home on solid ground – a rock. In the same way, a foolish person would listen to the words of Jesus but not do anything with them, while a wise person would not only hear Jesus's words, but put them into action.

PRAYER PRACTICE

[The Prayer Practice: Practicing the Way](#)

Practice Week 4: Reach Practice – Being with God (Beholding Prayer exercise, pages 37–38)

Write a Prayer Reflection (page 39).

REFLECTION EXERCISES

Read Chapters 52–60 in [Renovation of the Heart in Daily Practice](#) by Dallas Willard and Jan Johnson. Read a chapter a day and complete “Today’s Experiment.”

Schedule two to four hours of silence to read Chapter 61 in *Renovation of the Heart in Daily Practice*. Complete the “Today’s Experiment.”

Write your answers to the following questions on *Renovation of the Heart in Daily Practice*:

- Which chapter was most impactful and why?
- How did your relationship with God change because of what you learned?

Watch each of the following videos:

- [Old Testament Overview](#) by BibleProject
- [New Testament Overview](#) by BibleProject

Read Sections 1 and 2 of [30 Days to Understanding the Bible](#) by Max Anders (pages 1–180).

Complete the self-test at the end of each chapter of *30 Days to Understanding the Bible*.

Read Sections 4 and 5 of *30 Days to Understanding the Bible* by Max Anders (pages 281–305).

Answer the following questions:

- What was the most significant insight(s) from the Reflection Exercises, and how will you apply it to your life?
- How has what you've learned impacted your relationship with God, yourself, and others?