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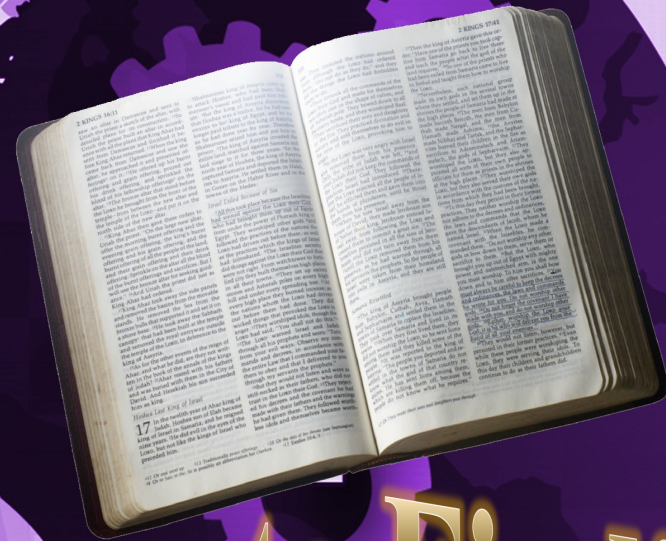
CHRISTIAN LIVING BIBLE STUDIES

- Christian Living Study Guide 1: “You Can Avoid a Shipwrecked Life” (*Gaining a Clear Conscience*)
- Christian Living Study Guide 2: “Keys to Finding True Success in Your Life” (*Engrafting Scripture*)
- Christian Living Study Guide 3: “Finding Shelter Under His Wings” (*Protection Under GOD’s Authority*)
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- Christian Living Study Guide 5: “Overcoming Bitterness & Triumphant in Suffering” (*Suffering With Grace*)
- Christian Living Study Guide 6: “Pathway to Peace” (*Freedom From Moral Impurity*)
- Christian Living Study Guide 7: “Designed On Purpose” (*Accepting GOD’s Design*)
- Christian Living Study Guide 8: “How to Speak so God Will Listen and Listen so God Will Speak” (*Principles for Prayer*)

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Christian Living Study Guide 2: “Engrafting Scripture”



Keys to Finding

True

SUCCESS

in YOUR Life

Successful Life

Living a
is what

God wants for each of His children. And the Biblical key to being successful in all our endeavors is to meditate upon, obey, and engraft the Word of God; especially His Law.

"This book of the Law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shall meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

Joshua 1:8.

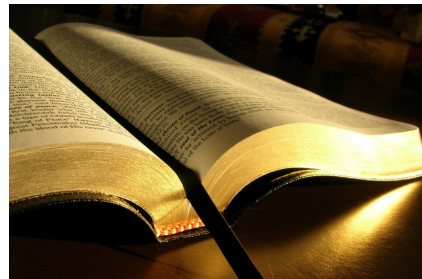
1. What blessings does God promise those who meditate upon His Word?



ANSWER: For those who meditate upon the Scriptures, God promises success, prosperity, wisdom, joy, a witness, and victory (see the following verses).

- **Whatever you do will prosper—**
Psalm 1:1-3
- **You will be wiser than your enemies and even your teachers—**
Psalm 119:97-100

- **Your heart will be filled with joy—**
Psalm 63:5-6
- **Your life will be a witness of success that is obvious to all —**
1 Timothy 4:15
- **You will find power to gain victory over sin —**
Psalm 119:9-11
- **You will be able to give wise counsel —**
Proverbs 22:17-18, 21

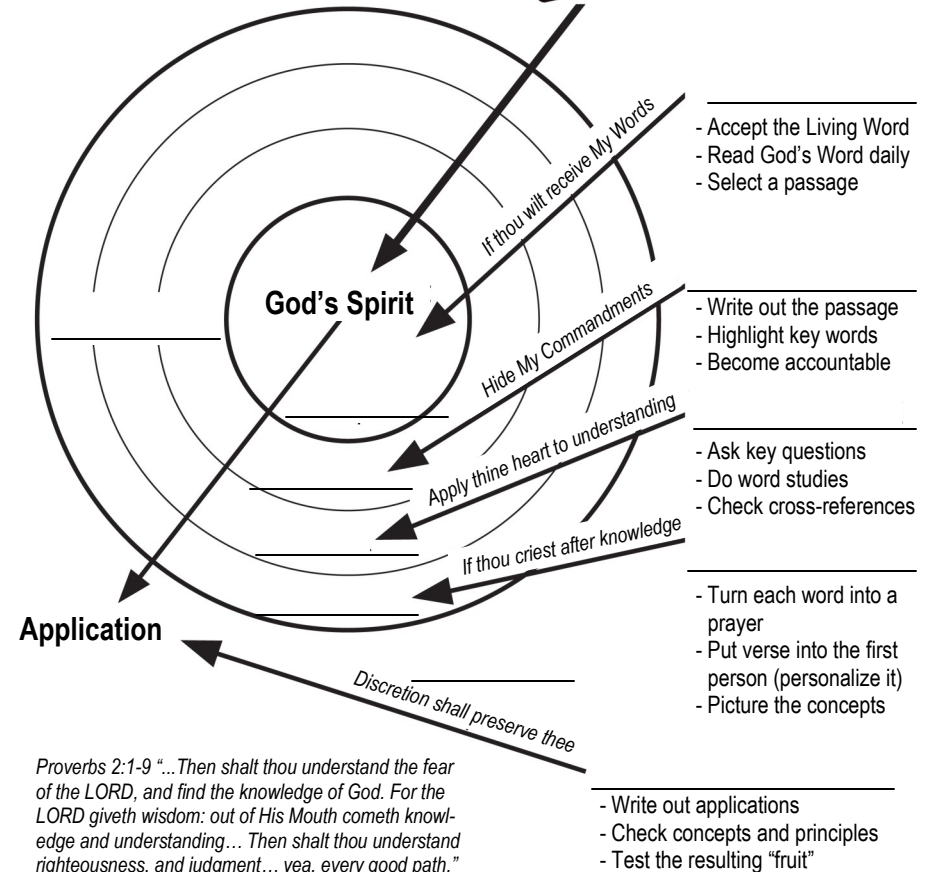


LESSON STUDY—2 continued

5) Use the diagram on page 4 to help you complete the diagram below, showing how to engraft God's Word into every level of the being:

How to Engraft God's Word

The Steps for Engrafting are given in _____



6) Will you make a commitment with God to begin engrafting Scripture?

Yes, (*pray and ask God to help you with this commitment*)

From the list on page 5, select the first passage of Scripture you plan to engraft, and give the reference: _____

ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL “FRUITS” FROM ENGRAFTING SCRIPTURE IS AN EVER-DEEPENING REFLECTION OF GOD’S CHARACTER WITHIN—BY BEHOLDING WE BECOME CHANGED:

2 Corinthians 3:18 “But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

LESSON STUDY—2

1) What are the six blessings God has promised to give when you meditate upon Scripture? (question 1, p 2)

- Whatever you do will _____
- You will be _____ than your _____ and even your _____
- Your heart will be filled with _____
- Your life will be witness of _____
- You will find _____ to gain _____ over _____
- You will be able to give _____

2) Why is engrafting Scripture deeper than memorizing a Bible verse? (question 2, page 3)

- _____
- _____
- _____

3) What are the three parts of a person? (question 2, page 3)

- _____
- _____
- _____

4) What are the three parts of the human soul? (question 2, page 3)

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. What does it mean to engraft God’s Word?

ANSWER: Engrafting a Scripture passage is much deeper than simply memorizing a Bible verse. The goal of engrafting Scripture is to have the life of Christ live through us by the power of His Word in us. It is a process of making His Word so much a part of us that it is like engrafting a limb into a tree. The engrafted Scripture actually becomes a part of our spirits, souls, and bodies.



- James 1:21 “Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted Word, which is able to save your souls.”

When a passage of Scripture is engrafted, it becomes part of our being on every level. Humanity is comprised of three parts: spirit (Psalm

77:6), soul (Psalm 139:14), and body (Philippians 1:20). The soul itself is comprised of three elements: mind, will, and emotions; as is shown in the following verses:

- **SOUL includes our MIND (intellect)** — Psalm 139:14, “*Marvelous are Thy works; and that my **SOUL KNOWETH** right well.*”
- **SOUL includes our WILL (desires)** — Revelation 18:14, “*And the fruits that thy **SOUL LUSTED** after are departed from thee...*”
- **SOUL includes our EMOTIONS (feelings)** — Psalm 35:9 and 42:6, “*And my **SOUL SHALL BE JOYFUL...**” “My **SOUL IS CAST DOWN** within me.”*

3. What is the first step to engraft God’s Word?

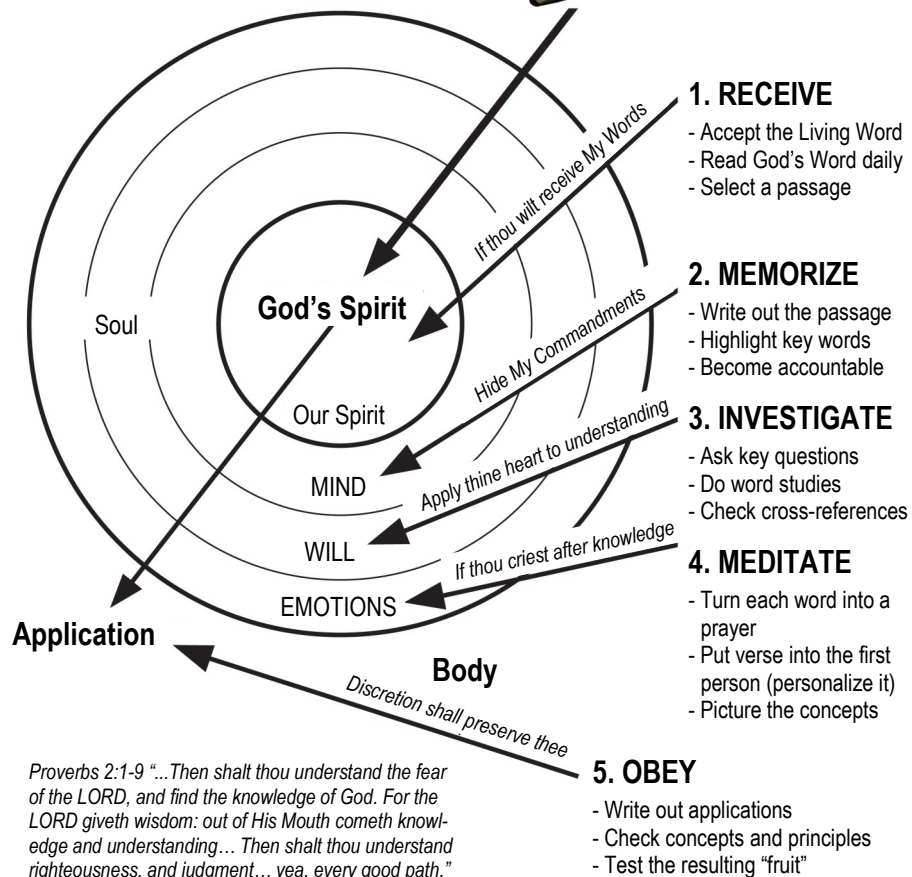
ANSWER: The first step in engrafting a verse of Scripture is to **RECEIVE the LIVING WORD into your SPIRIT.** Jesus (*Yahshua*) is the Living Word, as it says in John 1:1 and 14 “*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...*”

The first step in engrafting God's Word is to accept Jesus Christ (*Yahshua* the Messiah) as your personal Lord and Saviour. It is to invite Him to be enthroned within your heart. It is asking His Spirit to dwell fully in you.

Receiving God's Word is also demonstrating a hunger and receptiveness toward His holy Bible. As is shown in the following diagram (*adapted from a diagram in Bill Gothard's booklet, "Principle of Success"*) receiving God's Word involves spending time daily in the Scriptures.

How to Engraft God's Word

The Steps for Engrafting are given in Proverbs 2:1-11



Proverbs 2:1-9 "...Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of His Mouth cometh knowledge and understanding... Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment... yea, every good path."

WITNESSING AND MINISTRY IS SPIRITUAL REPRODUCTION

Not only must a species breathe and be nourished to sustain life, it must also bear fruit—reproduce. This final element needs to be within the follower of Christ in order to be fully alive spiritually. In other words, the Saviour doesn't just wake you from spiritual death and quicken you with His Spirit and Word, just for you to keep it to yourself. You are intended to be a channel of grace. And the continual state of prayer and engrafted Word of God within you prepares you for powerful ministry to others in need.

John 15:7-8 "If ye abide in Me, and My Words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is My Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be My disciples."

Isaiah 50:4 "The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: He wakeneth morning by morning, He wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned."

With this understanding, it is easy to see why developing a life-pattern of prayer and engrafting Scripture is essential. Not only does it nourish and strengthen your own soul, it makes you an effective conduit through which the life-giving power from Heaven may flow, touching all you come in contact with.



James 1:21-22
 "Wherefore lay apart (cast off) all filthiness (moral filth) and superfluity (great abundance) of naughtiness (wickedness), and receive with meekness (humility) **the engrafted Word**, which is able to save (heal, protect, preserve, and save) your souls. But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

ENGRAFTING SCRIPTURE IS SPIRITUAL SUSTENANCE

As it is impossible to sustain physical life without taking in nourishment, so it is not possible to sustain spiritual life without the sustenance of the Word. The Word of God is both like a refreshing water and a vital food to the soul.

[Ephesians 5:25-27](#) “Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it. That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word. That He might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”

[Jeremiah 15:16](#) “Thy Words were found, and I did eat them; and Thy Word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by Thy Name, O LORD God of hosts.”

And just as a well-nourished physical body is strong and healthy, so a well-fed spiritual soul is strengthened and better able to resist the tempter.

[Psalm 119:11](#) “Thy Word have I hid in mine heart (engrafting), that I might not sin (have strength not to sin) against Thee.”

Engrafting Scripture is a means to taking the Word of God into one’s very being. It becomes a part of you, as if on a cellular level. And accomplishing it, as we have begun to see, is much more involved than simply memorizing or studying passages from the Bible. The process involves all of these, yet it is much more. In summary, there are several vital steps to engrafting Scripture (see the diagram on page 4):

- Study your selected Scripture (as outlined in this lesson).
- Memorize the verse(s).
- Personalize the passage (by putting it into the first person).
- Turn each word into a prayer asking God to activate this promise in you.
- Meditate upon it when you wake, travel, relax, or fall asleep.
- Seek God’s wisdom in the passage.
- Obey God’s commands in this Scripture.

When you have completed these seven steps with a Scripture verse, (by God’s grace) you have successfully engrafted it. And this prepares you for the third element of life—reproduction, or sharing with others.

4. How can one select the right Scripture passage in order to begin engrafting it?

Choosing the Scripture to begin engrafting is based upon your own personal situation. All Scripture is worthy of engrafting, of course. But, the order in which you do it should be determined by which passages will be most beneficial to your current needs. The following is a list of suggested Scriptures for engrafting. Select the one that appeals to you and begin engrafting it, a process which will be further explained as we continue. Check the boxes next to the subjects/Scriptures you believe will most reach your own heart and needs from the list below:

ACCEPTING GOD’S DESIGN—Psalm 139

Do you struggle with accepting God’s physical design in making you? This is a good Scripture to engraft to help you appreciate God’s plan in designing you just as He did.

SUBMISSION TO GODLY AUTHORITY—Romans 13:1-7, Ephesians 5:22-6:10, 1 Peter 5:1-11

Do you battle with internal rebellion and willfulness? Are you “independent” and even “resistant” to authority? These are excellent verses to engraft to help you discover the protection of God which only comes through proper submission to God’s “chain of command.”

GAINING A CLEAR CONSCIENCE BEFORE GOD AND MAN—Psalm 51

Does gaining or keeping a clear conscience, by God’s grace elude you? This is a wonderful chapter to help you realize the purifying power of God in your life.

CONQUERING ANGER—Philippians 2:1-16

Anger is usually born out of unyielded “rights.” Our time, money, belongings, reputation... have been maligned or misused. Recognizing that we are “stewards” of what is rightfully God’s removes the root causes of anger.

MORAL PURITY—Romans 6 and 8

Are you struggling with sinful tendencies over which it seems you cannot win? God promises the victory. Discover how to find victory over every bad habit, sinful behavior, or ungodly thought. The keys to victory are found in these powerful Bible chapters.

SUCCESS—Psalm 1

Would you like to succeed in life? God’s formula is in this chapter.

5. What is the second step in engrafting a passage of Scripture?

ANSWER: Memorize the passage. Memorizing Bible verses is called “hiding God’s Word in our hearts.” It is a key factor in being able to gain victory over our “old man of sin” (our sinful nature and tendencies to fall into temptation).

Psalm 119:11 “*Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not (have the strength not to) sin against Thee.*”

Memorizing Scripture may be difficult to do, at first. But it gets easier the more you do it. Try to start with one verse a day. Then, as you develop more skill, add verses to your daily memorization plan.

There are some things you can do to make memorizing Bible verses less difficult. Choose the memorization technique that works best for you, or better still, try a combination of the following techniques. Always start by praying and asking God to help you memorize. Also, it may help to get a memorization partner (someone to memorize with).

- Write out the verse(s) you will memorize today. Write it in outline form, as shown below (for Psalm 1:1):

Blessed is the man
that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly
nor standeth in the way of sinners
nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

- Repeat the verse over and over, **emphasizing a different word each time**. Keep this up until you have emphasized (with your voice) every word in the verse.
- **Sing the verse**. Make up a tune, or use a tune someone else wrote to sing your Scriptures. Companies like Thy Word Creations (online at www.thywordcreations.com) have many chapters of the Bible set to music. These are available on CD, tape, and sheet music.



8. Why is engrafting Scripture important to my spiritual life?

ANSWER: Engrafting Scripture “feeds” the soul. To understand this spiritual concept, let’s compare it to the physical realm. For a species or life form to live and thrive it must do three things: breathe, take in nourishment, and reproduce. These same three elements of physical life are present in the spiritual realm. In order for a person to be spiritually alive, they also need to “breathe,” “be nourished,” and “reproduce.”

PRAYER IS SPIRITUAL BREATHING

It is because prayer is as vital to your spiritual life as breathing is to your physical life that the Bible tells you to always be in a state of prayer.

Ephesians 6:18 “*Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.*”

Luke 21:36 “*Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.*”



Being continually in a state of prayer with God doesn't mean you must always be kneeling. This kind of more formal prayer is vitally important, also of course. But the key to praying always is a to be in a continual state of communing with God, wherever you may be. It involves asking Heavenly guidance for decisions and interactions with people. Communing includes praising God as you move throughout the various experiences of your day.

Another vital part of “praying always” is linked to the process of engrafting Scripture. For as we memorize the Word, we also meditate upon it, personalize it, and even converse with God on it in our souls. In fact, engrafting the Word involves both spiritual breathing (prayer) and spiritual eating (being nourished through the Word).

To make this process plain, the following is the list of meaning (pertaining to the context of Psalm 23:1) for each of the three key words along with an example of the re-written verse (which should be personalized):

Study of Keywords and Deeper Meaning in Psalm 23:1

- Lord— (Strong's # 3068)
- "Yahovah... the Self-existent One, the Lord"
- Shepherd— (Strong's # 7462)
- "Friend, Ruler, One who feeds me, Pastor"
- Not want— (Strong's #2637)
- "have lack... cause to fail"

Re-Writing Psalm 23:1 With Deeper Meaning:

Yahovah, the One and only God is my personal Friend, Ruler, Shepherd, and Pastor. It is He Who feeds me. Because of His provision and leadership in my life, I will not have lack of any good thing and nothing can cause me to fail.

Once you have studied all the key words in the Scripture you are engrafting, you are ready to look up any cross-references listed in the margin of your Bible. One King James Version Bible lists the cross-reference Scriptures as Isaiah 40:11 and Ezekiel 34:11.

Now, for an even deeper glimpse into the meaning of your original engrafted Scripture (Psalm 23:1 in this example), look up all the key words in each of the cross-reference Scriptures and re-write them as well.

With this fuller dimension of understanding, you have successfully brought this Scripture into the "mind / understanding" portion of your soul. And by personalizing the passage, you have perceived it emotionally as well.



6. What is the third step in engrafting verses?

ANSWER: Meditation. As the diagram on page 4 shows, memorizing Scripture puts it into your mind. This is the first step to engrafting it into your soul. Once it is memorized, you can both investigate it and meditate upon it. First, we'll talk about meditation. Today, the word "meditation" has come to mean many things. But Biblical meditation isn't about emptying your mind. It is about filling your mind—with the Scripture(s) you are meditating upon. It is about personalizing that Scripture and thinking of it with your own name and needs in it.

Before you can meditate upon a passage of Scripture, you must first have memorized it. Again, memorizing Scripture is KEY to engrafting. It is also vital to living victoriously. Be aware that many excuses will probably pop into your mind about why you don't need to memorize. But, memorization not only gives strength (the Bible is God's Sword against the enemy—Hebrews 4:12) to overcome the enemy's temptations, it also quickens the mind, making us more and more able to comprehend spiritual things. There is no substitute for it. And there is no way to meditate properly without it.

The Bible tells us to meditate upon the Bible passages "*...when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up,*" Deuteronomy 6:7. These are specific times of the day. Let's look at what the Bible means here.

- **When thou sittest in thine house...**
- this is referring to our "down time," or relaxation time. Instead of turning on the TV, God invites you to meditate upon His Word.
- **When thou walkest by the way...** -
this is our traveling time. On your way to and from work each day, dwell upon the key concepts and passages you're engrafting.
- **When thou liest down... risest up** - this means that we are to meditate upon God's Word while we're lying in bed waiting to fall asleep and when we first wake up in the morning.



7. What is the next step in engrafting verses?

ANSWER: Investigate. Through investigating the key words in our Bible passage we put God’s Word into our will, completing it’s infusion into our souls. Through investigation of a Bible passage, we come to know what God is saying, and more specifically His message to us, **personally**, in it.

Before you begin to investigate the passage you are engrafting, it is first important to understand some key points to guide your investigation:

- The passage you are engrafting is inspired by God—2 Peter 1:21
- The passage is profitable for your instruction—2 Timothy 3:16-17
- God wants you to understand this passage—2 Timothy 2:15
- The Holy Spirit will teach you truth—John 16:13
- You cannot exhaust the riches of spiritual truth to be found in the passage—Romans 11:33
- Expect that your natural thoughts will be opposite to God’s thoughts (don’t expect to know right naturally)—Isaiah 55:8-9
- Be careful to not interpret the verse(s) your own way, but let the Bible interpret Itself—Colossians 2:8 and 2 Peter 1:20.
- The Bible was not originally written in English. Sometimes the English translation from the original leaves out some of the meaning. (Hebrew was the original language for the Old Testament and may have been for the New Testament as well). Part of your investigation will be looking up the key words of the verse(s) in a Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance to get the fuller meaning from the original words.

With these things in mind, you are ready to begin your investigation. Start by identifying all the key words in your passage. Key words are the words of the passage other than “a, an, of, the...” or other obvious or insignificant words. Identifying key words is a somewhat subjective process. The key words of the following Scripture are identified to give an example of this process:

Psalm 23:1 “...The **LORD** is my **shepherd**; I shall not **want**.”

Now you are ready to look those key words up in the Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance (or use software like **E-sword**, a Bible/concordance software program that is downloadable for free off the Internet). To do this, look up each key word and write down it’s full meaning. The following is the list of definitions found by using the Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance or E-Sword.

The Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance is organized like a Dictionary. Begin by looking up your first key word, finding it in alphabetical order. (Every word from the KJV Bible is listed in the Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance.)

To demonstrate how this is done, let’s look at the references listed under “SHEPHERD” in the Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance. For this example, we will only show the listings up through the Psalm 23:1 reference. In the reference listing, the actual word you are looking up will only appear as it’s first letter. This is why the word “shepherd” appears only as “s” in the Strong’s listing below:

SHEPHERD

for every s is an abomination.....	Gen. 46:34	7462
(from thence is the s, the stone.....	Gen. 49:24	7462
be not as sheep which have no s.....	Num 27:17	7462
hills, as sheep that have not a s.....	1 Kin 22:17	7462
as sheep that have no s.....	2 Chr 18:16	7462
The LORD is my s.....	Ps. 23:1	7462

Now you are ready to look up the Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance number (shown in the far right column). The very back of the Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance has a listing of Hebrew (for words from Old Testament Scriptures) and Greek (for words from New Testament Scriptures) words. These listings are organized in numerical order. So, you need to find the number 7462 in the 7400 section of the Hebrew word listing (since Psalm is an Old Testament book).

The following is the listing found in Strong’s or E-Sword, giving the original Hebrew word translated as “shepherd” in Psalm 23:1:

7462 רעה *râ’âh* (*raw-aw'*) - *A primitive root; to tend a flock, that is, pasture it; intransitively to graze (literally or figuratively); generally to rule; by extension to associate with (as a friend): - X break, companion, keep company with, devour, eat up, evil entreat, feed, use as a friend, make friendship with, herdman, keep [sheep] (-er), pastor, + shearing house, shepherd, wander, waste.*

Next you will need to write out the definition for this keyword (“shepherd”) that relates to the context of the verse. Once this is done, you should repeat this process for each keyword in the Scripture you are studying. Then, rewrite the verse using the fuller meaning you gained from Strong’s.