



7 STEPS TO BIBLE SKILLS

Step 5: Bible Study Helps





STEP 5: BIBLE STUDY HELPS

Why use study aids?

- What's the difference between reading the Bible and studying the Bible?
 - You take notes when you study something
 - Your mind is more focused
 - You engage with the text
 - You ask questions of the text: Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?
- Bible study aids are very useful in helping us understand God's word deeper and apply it to our lives

Types of Bible Study Aids

- Concordances
- Marginal References
- Bible Atlases
- Footnotes
- Page Headings
- Chapter Headings
- Commentaries
- Dictionaries of Bible Terms
- Harmonies of the Gospels
- Chronologies
- Genealogies
- Outlines and Summaries of Books
- Pictures and Diagrams

Concordances

- What is a concordance?
- A concordance is a type of reference (something you refer to) for certain information; similar to a dictionary, encyclopedia or directory
- A Biblical concordance is "an alphabetical list of the words (especially the important ones) present in a text, usually with citations of the passages in which they are found"
- Some study Bibles contain concordances (usually at the front or back of the Bible), or a concordance can be an entire book by itself.

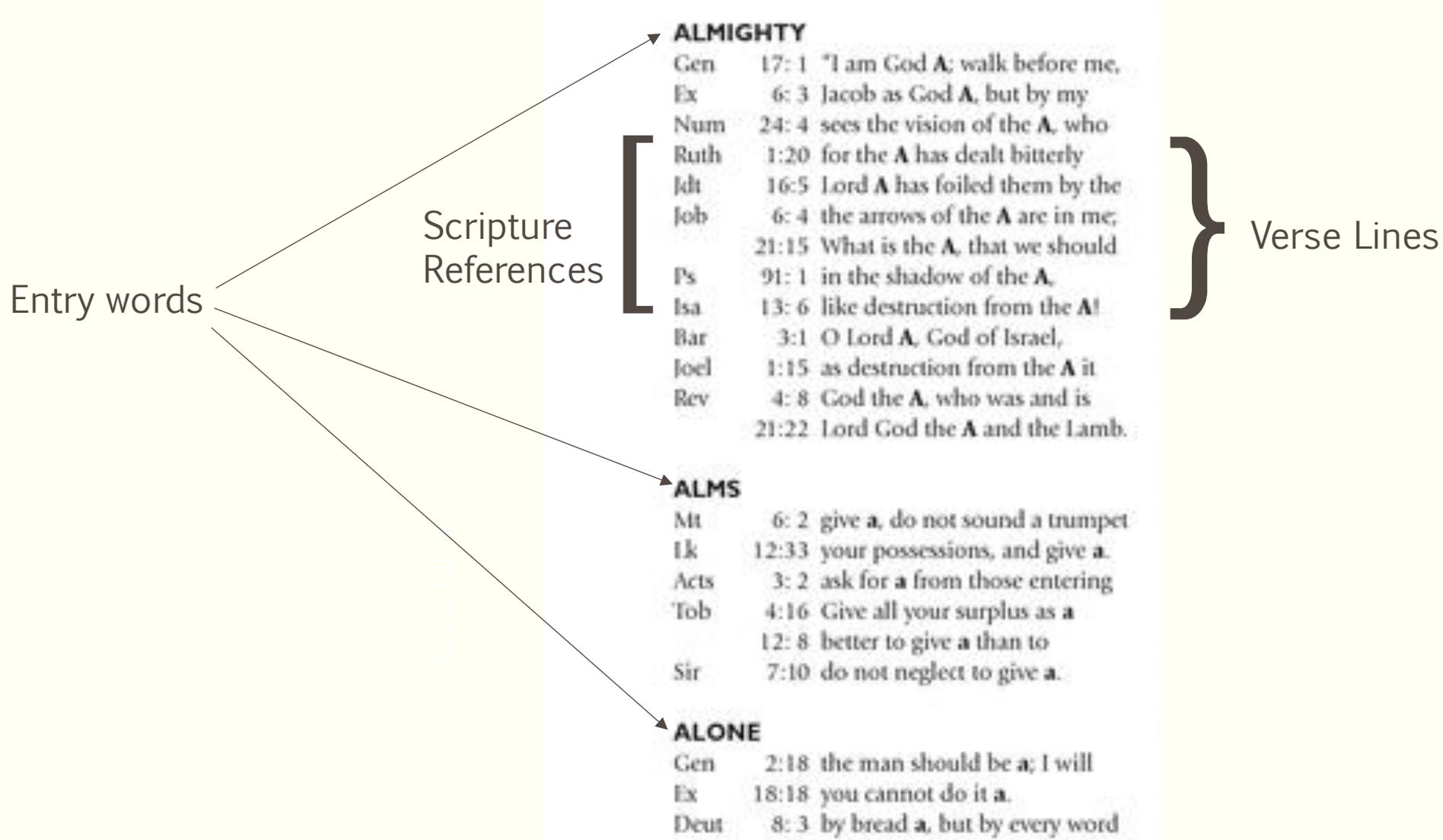
What are the uses of a Concordance?

- Finding where certain verses of Scripture are located in the Bible
- Looking up verses about specific topics (i.e. "love", "Spirit", etc.)
- Some concordances give definitions of words
- Some concordances give brief biographies of Bible characters
- Some concordances give pronunciation guides for names

How is a Concordance arranged?

- If a Bible has a concordance, it is usually in the back
- A word or term contained in a concordance is called an *entry*
- Entries are listed in alphabetical order
- Each entry is followed by a list of Bible verses containing that term
 - The whole verse is not written out, only the line containing the term
 - This is called the verse line
 - Most concordances only give the first letter of the term in the verse line
- Abbreviated Scripture references come before or after the verse line
- If the entry is a verb, sometimes all of the verb forms are listed; if it is a noun, the plural form is sometimes included

Concordance Breakdown



How do you find a certain verse?

- Decide which words in the verse are the *key words*; those which are most important
- Look up one of the key words in a concordance. When you find that entry, read through the list of verse lines to find the verse you're looking for.
- Note the Scripture reference to the right or left of the verse and look it up in the Bible. If it's not the right verse, try again or look up a different key word
- Some words appear too often in the Bible for a concordance to give an exhaustive list

Marginal References

- These are references to related verses or passages written in the margins of a text
- Sometimes called:
 - Marginal References
 - Column References
 - Chain References
 - Cross References

the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. ²⁰But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them,^c and on that day they will fast.

²¹"No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. Otherwise, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. ²²And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins."

Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath

²³One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain.^d ²⁴The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"^e

²⁵He answered, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? ²⁶In the days of Abiathar the high priest,^f he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat.^g And he also gave some to his companions."^h

²⁷Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man,ⁱ not man for the Sabbath.^j ²⁸So the Son of Man^k is Lord even of the Sabbath."

2:20

† Lk 17:22

2:23

† Dt 23:25

2:24 † Mt 12:2

2:26

† 1Ch 24:6;

2Sa 8:17

† Lev 24:5-9

† 1Sa 21:1-6

2:27

† Ex 23:12;

Dt 5:14

† Col 2:16

2:28 † Mt 8:20

3:1 † Mt 4:23;

Mk 1:21

3:2

† Mt 12:10

† Lk 14:1

3:4

† Mt 22:16;

Mk 12:13

† Mt 12:14

3:7 † Mt 4:25

3:8 † Mt 11:21

ciples to have a small boat ready for him, to keep the people from crowding him. ¹⁰For he had healed many,^j so that those with diseases were pushing forward to touch him.^k

¹¹Whenever the impure spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God."^l ¹²But he gave them strict orders not to tell others about him.^m

Jesus Appoints the Twelve

¹³Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him.ⁿ ¹⁴He appointed twelve^{ox} that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach ¹⁵and to have authority to drive out demons.^p ¹⁶These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter),^q ¹⁷James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means "sons of thunder"), ¹⁸Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot ¹⁹and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

Jesus Accused by His Family and by Teachers of the Law

²⁰Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered,^o so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat.^b ²¹When his family^b heard about this, they went to take

How do marginal references help?

- Marginal references allow us to cross-reference related subjects. For example, if you are studying what the Bible says about love, maybe you went to John 3:16 and found a marginal reference that directs you to other passages about love.
- Often the NT quotes directly from the OT or makes a reference to an OT person or event. Marginal references help us to look up those stories and see the full context that the NT author is drawing out.

Bible Dictionaries

OF ZADOK AND ADIATHAR (as still referred to in 1 K^g. 4:4), and also fulfilled the prediction, made 150 years earlier, of the end of the priestly rule of the house of Eli (1 Sam. 2:31-35).

Abib. ay'bib, ah-veev' (Heb. *ʾabib* H26, "ripened head of grain"). TNIV Aviv. The first month in the Jewish religious CALENDAR (corresponding to March-April), during which the Passover took place (Exod. 13:4; 23:15; 34:18; Deut. 16:1). Abib is the older and presumably Canaanite name for the month of NISAN.

Abib, Tel. See TEL ANIA.

Abida. uh-bi'duh (Heb. *ʾabidaʿ* H30, "father of knowledge" or "my father knows/has acknowledged [me]"). Also Abidah (some eds. of KJV at Gen. 25:4). The fourth of the five sons of MIDIAN, who was a son of ABRAHAM by his concubine KETURAH (Gen. 25:4; 1 Chr. 1:33). Abraham gave gifts to the sons of his concubines and sent them to the E while he was still living so that ISAAC'S inheritance would not be compromised.

Abidan. uh-bi'duhn (Heb. *ʾabidan* H29, "[my] father has judged"). Son of GIDEONI; he was a leader who represented the tribe of BENJAMIN as a census taker in the wilderness of SINAI (Num. 1:11; 2:22;

Abiezer. ay'bi-ee'zuhr (Heb. *ʾabiʿezer* H48, "[my] father is help"; gentilic *ʾabi ʿezri* H49, "Abiezrite"). (1) A descendant of MANASSEH, the son of JOSEPH. Abiezer, who settled on the W side of the JORDAN (Josh. 17:2), is probably the same as IEZER (a contraction of Abiezer), regarded as the son of GILEAD (Num. 26:30). If 1 Chr. 7:18 refers to the same individual, he was apparently Gilead's nephew, in which case he may have been considered a son for genealogical purposes. The district of Manasseh inhabited by the Abiezrites (Jdg. 6:34) was the native region from which GIDEON came (6:11). The site of the appearance of the angel of the Lord to Gideon was Ophrah of the Abiezrites (6:24), the town from which Gideon drew his first support of men to fight the Midianites (6:34). See OPHRAH (PLACE).

(2) One of DAVID'S military elite, the Thirty; a native of ANATHOTH in BENJAMIN (2 Sam. 23:27; 1 Chr. 11:28). He was one of David's month-by-month army commanders, having his turn in the ninth month (1 Chr. 27:12).

Abiezrite. ay'bi-ee'zit. See ABIEZER.

Abigail, Abigal. ab'uh-gayl, ab'uh-gal (Heb. *ʾabigail* H28, "[my] father rejoices" or "source of joy"; also *ʾabigal* [1 Sam. 25:32; 2 Sam. 3:3 *Ketib*,

Bible Outlines/ Summaries

JOHN

	Deity "The Word was God." (1:1)	God-Man "The Word became flesh." (1:14) <i>Miraculous signs:</i> Turns water into wine (2) Heals official's son (4)	Ministry <i>Miraculous signs:</i> Heals invalid at Bethesda (5) Feeds 5,000 (6) Walks on water (6) Heals blind man (9) Raises Lazarus (11)	Discourse <i>Private talks:</i> Servanthood (13) Heaven (14) Abiding (15) Promises (16) Prayer (17)	Trials and Death 	Empty Tomb <i>Private talks:</i> Appearances (20)	Assurance <i>Private talks:</i> Future (21)
	CHAPTER 1:1-13	CHAPTERS 1:14-4:54	CHAPTERS 5-12	CHAPTERS 13-17	CHAPTERS 18-19	CHAPTER 20	CHAPTER 21
Stage	Prologue	Acceptance	Conflict	Preparation	Crucifixion	Triumph	Epilogue
Audience	Public message			CHANGE	Private message		
Time	Three years			Several days			
Jesus's Seven "I Am" Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I am the bread of life." (6:35) • "I am the Light of the world." (8:12) • "I am the door." (10:9) • "I am the good shepherd." (10:11) 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I am the resurrection and the life." (11:25) • "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." (14:6) • "I am the true vine." (15:1) 			
Theme	Salvation comes only through Jesus Christ, the Son of God.						
Key Verse	20:31						
Christ in John	Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, the way, the truth, and the life who alone is the revelation of God and salvation of people (1:1-18; 20:31).						

Synopsis/ Harmonies of the Gospels

Jesus Before Pilate

(Matthew 27:2, 11-14; Mark 15:1-5; Luke 23:1-5; John 18:28-38)

Matthew

² So they bound him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate the governor. ¹¹ Meanwhile Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” “You have said so,” Jesus replied. ¹² When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer. ¹³ Then

Mark

15 ¹ Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, made their plans. So they bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate. ² “Are you the king of the Jews?” asked Pilate. “You have said so,” Jesus replied. ³ The chief priests accused him

Luke

23 ¹ Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. ² And they began to accuse him, saying, “We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Messiah, a king.” ³ So Pilate asked Jesus, “Are you the king of the Jews?” “You have said so,” Jesus replied. ⁴

John

²⁸ Then the Jewish leaders took Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor. By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness they did not enter the palace, because they wanted to be able to eat the Passover. ²⁹ So Pilate came out to them and asked, “What charges are you bringing against