

The Book Synthesis Method

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Week 12
Bible Study Methods
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Introduction

When you combine today's study with the past two weeks, you get the most comprehensive approach to studying God's Word.

Survey – get a bird's eye view of the book

Analysis – Study everything in each chapter in detail

Synthesis – put it back together again.

Definition

A book synthesis involves tying a whole Book of the Bible together by summarizing and condensing what we learned using the previous two methods.

Synthesis – root word *syn* means “together”; *the* means “to put” ...resulting in “a putting together”

Analysis – which means “a taking apart” is the exact opposite of Synthesis.

In *Synthesis* we ignore the details and look only at the whole picture.

Why this method?

- It is the natural conclusion to a in-depth study.
- Allows you see the book as a whole again after having looked at its parts in detail
- Allows you to see the details of the book in proper perspective.

The form

Reread the Book

1. Read the book through in one sitting.
2. Read through the book in a recent translation.
3. Read through the book rapidly, ignoring chapter divisions.
4. Read though the book repeatedly.
5. Read through the book without reference material, commentaries, or notes you've written.
6. Read through the book with a pen or pencil in hand.

Write out a Detailed, Final Outline

1. Compare your horizontal chart and tentative outline from *Book Survey Method* with your passage summaries.
2. Based on the comparisons and your rereading, write out a detailed, final outline.

Write Down a Descriptive Book Title

Think up an original title that describes in a few words what the book is all about.

Consult your horizontal chart and your chapter titles and form a synthesis of them

Make a Summary of your insights

Review and compare the concluding thoughts of each your chapter analysis studies and summarize what you believe are the major these and conclusions of the book.

Do not refer to commentaries until after you have completed this step.

Personal application

Select one thing the Lord spoke to you about from your survey and write out the application.

Share the Results

You don't prepare a grand feast and then eat alone. Neither should you prepare food for your soul and hoard it.

Bible study needs to be shared with others.

1. Share it with someone you are disciplining.
2. Share it with a friend, companion, family member, mate.
3. Share it with your Small Group
4. Teach a Sunday School Class