

# DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

Discovery Bible Study (DBS) method is one model for reading Scripture and applying it to our daily lives.

God is speaking to us through His Word, so this is one way to “hear from God.” This is how it works:

1. **PRAY** Before you read Scripture, ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart so that you can hear what God is saying. Reading Scripture is not just an intellectual exercise- we want the Holy Spirit to be our teacher.
2. **TEXT SAYS** Start by writing down whatever stood out to you the most as you were reading, which can be a word, phrase, or verse. Then, sum up the passage in your own words- there’s no wrong way to do it! This process can help internalize the Scripture.
3. **TEXT MEANS** Here you answer a few basic questions about what is speaking to you. What feels significant for you? What does this passage teach you about God and people?
4. **I WILL + PRAYER** If God is speaking to you, then what will you do about it? Make an actionable statement starting with the words “I will...” Then, write out a prayer in response to what you have read. We can’t live out what God is calling us to do apart from His power!
5. **SHARE** Who can you share what you have learned? It can be for a spiritually curious friend or a fellow follower of Jesus who is helping keep you accountable for your spiritual habits.

# EXAMPLE: MARK 2:1-8

## PRAY

**TEXT SAYS** (Sum up the passage in my own words + What part stands out?)

*"Why are you thinking these things?"*

*Jesus is teaching in a crowded house when four guys bring their paralyzed friend down through the roof since they couldn't get in. When Jesus told the man his sins were forgiven, the religious teachers accused Him of blasphemy. Jesus called them out on what they were thinking and told the man to get up with his mat and go home. The man leaves healed.*

**TEXT MEANS** (What does this passage teach me about God and people?)

*The blindness of the teachers of the law stands out to me. They have studied the Scriptures and know about the coming Messiah, but totally miss it when He is right in front of them. The fact that He knows what they are thinking seems to go right over their heads. Jesus prioritized the forgiveness of sins over the physical healing of the paralyzed man. The four friends had blind faith, and the teachers of the law were blind to the Messiah.*

**I WILL + PRAYER** (How will I apply this? + Respond in prayer.)

*I will check my "vision" often with God and ask Him to open my spiritual eyes in any area where I am blind.*

*God, I don't want to miss where You are at work because of being stuck in my own perception. Help me to see where I need Your perspective and respond with humility.*

**SHARE** (Who can I share this with?)

*I am going to share this with my friend at work.*