

(I have found that I tend to combine the 2nd and 3rd reading. This is always a guideline – just do what works for you. The ultimate goal is to simply read and study and learn and share.)

First reading:

Normal reading as with any other book. Read passage to get the story, to know what is being said.

Find your favorite part of the passage for the week. Make note of that passage. Also make note of any phrase or word in the entire passage that jumps out at you. Why do you think it did? Write any thoughts on the passage, phrase, or word.

Second reading:

Using just your favorite part of the passage noted in the first reading, reread that passage using a different translation. Read slowly, meditate on the passage. Pray over it, really think about it. If possible, pick one of the characters in the story and pretend you are that person. Look at it from that person's perspective.

Third reading:

Digging deeper - using the same shorter passage as above (or a different shorter one if you want) read using another different translation, ideally a study Bible. Read the notes, look up commentary. If you don't have access to these types of resources, there are many online resources. Biblegateway.com is a great example. This site has MANY different translations and study notes. For some a paid subscription is needed but there are many that are free.

Make note of anything you learn.

Your notes are the things we will share the next time we get together!

For NOVEMBER – Women of the Bible

Week 1

Judges 4-5 (Before there were Kings of Israel there were Judges.)

Week 2

Ruth (all of it)

Week 3

Esther (All of it. There are 10 chapters but many of them are short.)

Week 4

Because there are no more longish passages about women that I could find, and because week 3 is a bit long, I don't have a specific passage assignment. Instead either concentrate on Esther still or again. OR see what you can find on a woman of your choosing. Some suggestions that come to my mind: similarities of Hannah (OT Samuel's mother) and Elizabeth (NT John the Baptist mother), Mary and Martha, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of Jesus. See what you can find to share next month!