

HIS PALETTE

CREATIVELY PRAISING HIM AND
LEARNING HIS WORD

VERSE MAPPING STEP-BY-STEP

Welcome to our overview of Verse-Mapping! This is a fun and in-depth form of Bible Study that allows us to "go deepER" with any verse in the Bible.

It can be mapped out creatively or more academically - the choice is up to the individual. Whether you are brand new to verse mapping or have extensive experience, there is something for everyone in this study of selected Scriptures.

We usually use several study resources and record the results of our study in a notebook and journal. We love, for instance, the resource, Blue Letter Bible, for many of the aspects of this form of study.

Our approach to Verse Mapping includes:

1. Write out the verse you are studying, and the Bible translation you have chosen for your study.
2. Read a different Bible Translation than the one you are using for study. For instance, if you use an NASB or ESV for study, try reading the NIV or NKJV. Write out that different version.
3. Identify the relevant cross-references, using your study Bible, concordance, and/or websites. Try listing the references from the earliest to latest as presented in the Bible. We use Blue Letter Bible as a primary study tool; members are free to use whatever study resources that are available to them.
4. Determine the Book Context: list the Book; Author; Date; Audience; Purpose; and Themes. Book Context helps us to understand a "big picture" overview of the book that the verse is located within and is very useful in understanding the proper context.
5. List the Paragraph Context: read the paragraphs above and below the verse. This is more of a "zoom-in" overview of the verse, to determine how the verse fits in the chapter. You may also present a detailed outline of the chapters directly preceding and following the verse.

Studying both the Book and Passage Contexts helps us determine how the individual verse "sits and fits" in the book, as well as assists us in properly understanding of the verse (known as text within

context).

6. Complete a word search in the original language (Hebrew in the Old Testament, Greek in the New Testament). We suggest it be one or more words that "stand out" to you upon reading. These word studies provide tremendous insight into what a verse was originally stating.

7. What this tells me about God:

- Review both the verse and all your notes to determine what the Scripture and context tell you about God.
- We summarize this as anything related to: His descriptive name; nature; character; and actions.

Once your study is complete, you can fill your verse map out in the manner that you choose. Please be encouraged to post your results with the group.

Resources Being Used or Consulted:

- The New International Dictionary of the Bible
- Study Bibles
- Strong's Concordance, and
- Online resources: Blue Letter Bible and Logos.