

HOW TO STUDY A CULTURAL ISSUE



Ask the question: what am I curious about? What does God think about _____?

1. Define the issue (*example: alcohol*)
2. Choose additional words that could relate, including opposites (*wine, drink, strong drink, drunkenness, sober, beer...*)
What are some emotions related to the issue?
3. Do a Bible word search using a concordance, or visit <https://www.blueletterbible.org/> or www.biblegateway.com etc.
Read all the verses that possibly apply from Genesis through Revelation, in context.
4. Categorize all the verses so that patterns can be seen (*how to use wine; benefits of wine, abuses of alcohol, abstinence, and why, etc.*)

Ideas for study: dance, tattoos, anger (list of what makes me angry vs. what makes God angry), birth control (life, each pregnancy, sexual issues), old age/aging, orphans, widows, immigrants, refugees, poor and needy, land, national borders (establishing and maintaining)

- Before you begin, write down what *you* think about the issue, and why.
Write what you already know about this issue.
Ask Holy Spirit to remind you of related verses and teachings that you've heard about this issue.
- Submit your mind to the Lord, then meditate with Him about what you've learned.
"Holy Spirit, guide me into Your truth about this issue."
Ponder the various Scriptures with the guidance of Holy Spirit, taking notes.
- With broad studies such as these, it is not entirely necessary go into the Greek and Hebrew word meanings, although you may find it helpful.
- After you have categorized all the verses in one book from the Bible, ask Holy Spirit to help you identify the principles of truth from that book. Then write a paper on all the principles you've discovered and how your thinking has changed about the issue.