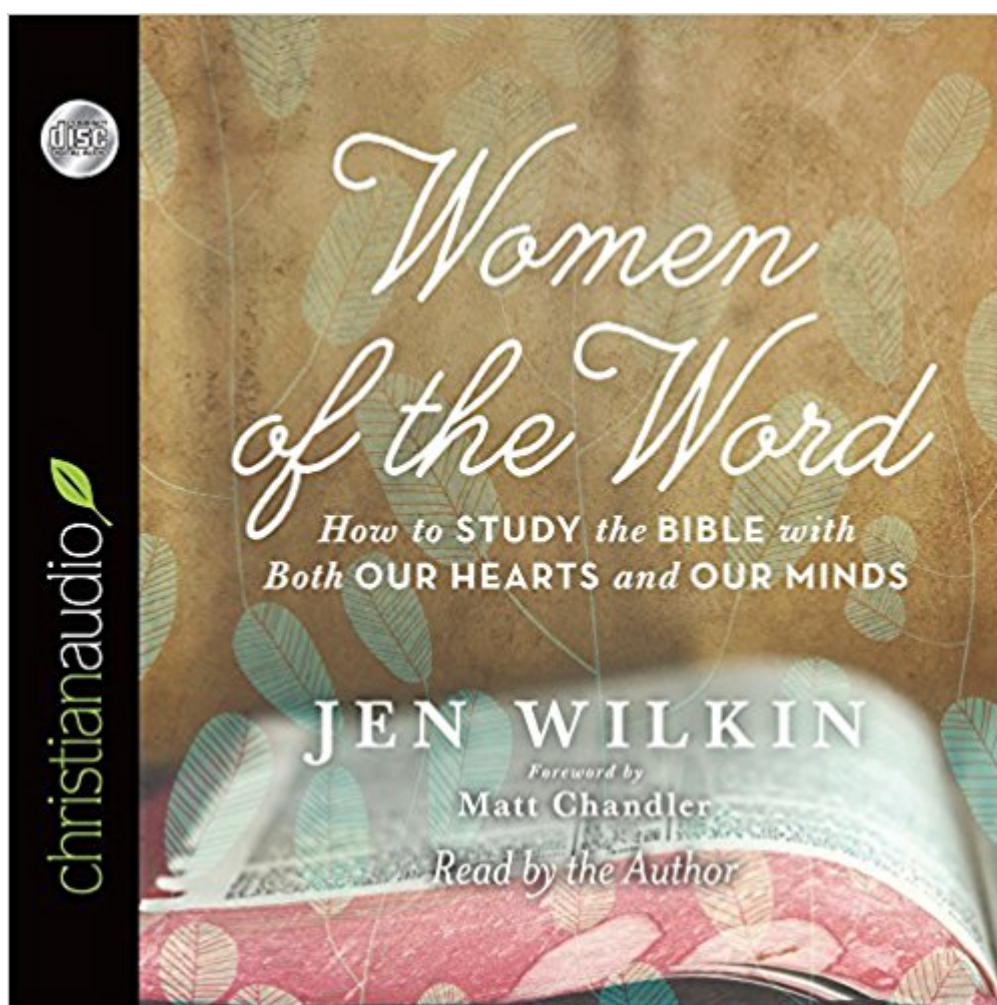


The book was found

Women Of The Word: How To Study The Bible With Both Our Hearts And Our Minds



Synopsis

A popular Bible teacher offers practical guidance and helpful tips for women who want to go deeper in their study of the Bible and learn how to teach others to do the same.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Wilkin’s challenges to the status quo, grounded in years of observation, ring with gentle wisdom and guide readers in how to study the Bible with greater depth.” (July 14, 2014) • Publishers Weekly “I have a passion for people to see and savor the God of the Bible, and a corresponding frustration when I see the hurt, loss, and lack of confidence that accompanies a lack of biblical literacy. That’s why I’m glad you are holding this book. Jen Wilkin takes knowing the God of the Bible seriously. She is one of the better Bible teachers I’ve had the opportunity to hear. Her approach in teaching people how to grow in their knowledge of the Scriptures is accessible and helpful regardless of whether you have been a Christian for decades and feel like it’s too late for you or you are a young believer who is hungry to know and understand the God of the Bible.” • Matt Chandler, Lead Pastor, The Village Church, Dallas, Texas; President, Acts 29 Church Planting Network “I found Women of the Word to be so practical in the way it demystifies serious Bible study. Too many people—men and women—opt for just reading a few verses and hoping for some inspiration, rather than discovering the meaning of the text in the sweep of God’s redemptive plan. Women of the Word will help anyone who reads it to find their way deeper into the Word of God without having to be seminary educated, a genius, or even an especially good

student. My only caveat is that I wish the title didn't make it hard for men to read . . . they need it, too.

•Kathy Keller, Assistant Director of Communications, Redeemer Presbyterian Church, New York City, New York

"I've seen eyes misty with tears as women come to understand for the first time that the Bible is actually, literally God's Word. What great mercy we have been shown that the Creator who spoke everything that ever was into existence would give us his Word. Jen Wilkin knows this mercy in the core of her being. She has tasted and seen God's goodness in his Word, and she doesn't want a single woman to miss it. Read *Women of the Word* with your Bible open and your friends alongside you. Think of this book as a masterpiece of a Bible study banquet •have a seat, here are your utensils, dig in, and enjoy.

•Gloria Furman, Pastor's wife, Redeemer Church of Dubai; mother of four; author, *Glimpses of Grace* and *Treasuring Christ When Your Hands Are Full*

"Jen lives what she teaches. Her servant heart in unpacking the Scriptures as well as her affection for the women she is teaching is evident the moment you meet her. I'm so glad she was obedient to the Lord's call to write this book! It has served to clear the fog in my heart and mind when it comes to studying God's Word, and I absolutely cannot wait to purchase many more copies for the women in my life who I know will love it too!

•Bethany Dillon, singer/songwriter

"This book responds to the feelings-driven, me-centered approach that has too often dominated our study of the Scriptures. Jen encourages women to grow in knowledge of the Word in order to know our Lord. She speaks out of her own joyful and growing experience of learning to dig in. May her voice be joined by many others!

•Kathleen B. Nielson, Director of Women's Initiatives, The Gospel Coalition

"Reading the Bible can sometimes seem daunting. There are difficult passages, many interpretations, and often so little time to read thoroughly. Jen Wilkin recognizes this and provides tools to help us navigate it all. *Women of the Word* gives us a blueprint for Bible literacy. If we want to know the God we love, we must engage our minds and know his Word where he reveals himself. Wilkin's tools may be new for some, but the effort will be worth the reward. Ultimately, it's about seeing and savoring our Savior.

•Trillia Newbell, author, *United: Captured by God's Vision for Diversity* and *Fear and Faith*

"Jen Wilkin's book is written with a winsomeness and warmth, which makes it easy to read. But she also writes with clarity of purpose that rightly pushes the reader to want to read God's Word well. The bottom line: this book encourages women to know God better by developing good habits of reading his Word. Amen, sister!

•Jenny Salt, Dean of Students, Sydney Missionary and

Bible College. “How can we go deeper than a little dabbling in the Bible for inspiration? Jen Wilkin shows us how in this must-read for every woman interested in teaching and leading Bible discussion groups in your church.” • Nancy Guthrie, Bible Teacher; author, Seeing Jesus in the Old Testament Bible study series

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--This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Once bitten, twice shy. That pretty much describes my response to most major marketing campaigns by Christian publishers. So often I've found that the best books are the ones that appear with the least fuss, and that the ones carried in on the back of a major marketing wave prove to be disappointing. But not always. Jen Wilkin's *Women of the Word* has been the beneficiary of some major marketing efforts. It was the talk of this year's Gospel Coalition National Conference for Women and has been pushed

heavily in the blogosphere. And I'm glad to say that it proved my skepticism wrong—it is an excellent little book. Wilkin loves God's Word and she loves to teach others to love it as well. Her book is designed to awaken that same love in others, and especially in other women. It is, after all, meant to call women to the Word so they can be women of the Word. She opens biographically, telling about her growing passion for the Bible—for reading it, for knowing it, for teaching it to others. She explains that the book's purpose is "to teach you not merely a doctrine, concept, or story line, but a study method that will allow you to open up the Bible on your own. It intends to challenge you to think and to grow, using tools accessible to all of us, whether we hold a high school diploma or a seminary degree, whether we have minutes or hours to give to it each day."

Before she gets to a method of studying the Bible, she tells about two turnarounds she had to make in her life, where she replaced backward approaches to Bible study with better ones. The first was to allow the Bible to speak of God. She had been approaching the Bible as a book about her, a book answering the question "Who am I?" more than "Who is God?" The second turnaround was thinking that she should allow her heart, rather than her mind, to guide her study of the Bible. She let her feelings dictate what she read and how she read it instead of first allowing it to transform her mind. She wants her readers to know that they cannot love what their minds do not know. With those foundations in place, she makes a plea for biblical literacy and follows it with a five-part method meant to bring it about. Her description of this method, along with examples of it in action, consume the bulk of the book. She teaches her readers to study with purpose, perspective, patience, process and prayer. This method is simple enough to be practical, but significant enough to lead to deep understanding, reflection, and application. She closes with some guidance for teachers and a final call to a commitment to the Word.

While I am not the target audience for the book (I don't ever anticipate being a woman of the Word), I found it very enjoyable nonetheless. I read it at a good time in life—a time in which I am thoroughly enjoying reading God's Word—and it fired up my love for God, and his Word, all the more. While Wilkin's method is sound, I also enjoyed her emphases on approaching the Bible intellectually ahead of emotionally, of training the mind to train the heart. This is a missing emphasis in too many books on reading the Scriptures and, in particular, books targeted at women. The point is not that everyone who reads the Bible ought to be an outright intellectual, but that Bible-reading cannot bypass the mind. *Women of the Word* is a helpful little book that I cheerfully commend. (And, I should add, one Aileen read before I did and enjoyed every

bit as much.)

This is a stellar read and useful for any serious bible student. My only issue is that Mrs. Wilkin doesn't personally see the value of approaches to study that are not book-by-book. (Or so it seems) Topical studies, when done correctly, are quite illuminating. Also, chronological studies in whole or in part (say, just gospels or perhaps just the historical books) are equally transformative. I have enjoyed word studies and greatly appreciate the fluid nature of the scriptures as they relate one to another. This is one very good approach to study and I will be employing it for myself as well as recommending to others. However, as part of my recommendation, I will be quick to point out that bible study can not be boiled down to one simple book-by-book method and that other approaches to study are useful.

Women of the Word has been great for me. It's easier for me to remember (and be obedient to) God's word using the prayerful, purposeful process Jen lays out. I never thought of and no one else taught me to deliberately search for God's character while reading the Bible. I hope to pass the study methods along to everyone I know who wants to grow in Christ.

I really was looking for a Bible Study & this wasn't what I had in mind, however it was exactly what it claimed to be 'a guide for, how to study the Bible'.

This is a fabulous book, bringing women back to the Word of God as the sole authority for faith and life. For the new Christian, especially, there are specific and good recommendations for how to study a passage of Scripture, apart from all the glitz and glamour we see now in Christian women's ministries. Sherrie Eldridge [Http://SherrieEldridge.com](http://SherrieEldridge.com)

If you want to learn to study the Word in depth and are willing to invest the time it takes to do so (hardest part, right?), Jen does an *excellent* job teaching how to do this. She is repetitive, but that's not a bad thing when you really want to learn something, right? So don't be distracted by that. Apply what she teaches. Take the time. This book is an excellent guide for digging into the Word and Jen has great insights into ways we tend to take shortcuts, "get by," etc., that keep us from discovering more of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God available to us, given to us.

Great book to help you grow in your faith and Bible literacy. Wilkin does a wonderful job walking you

through how to study the Bible yourself. Highly recommend

This book has transformed how I approach God's word in the very first chapter! It's smart, relatable, and easy to read! If you're looking for a book that will help you prepare your heart and mind for reading the scriptures, this is IT.

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