

Bible Concordance

What is a Bible Concordance? A Bible Concordance is an alphabetical index of key words found in the Bible and it references which passages the word occurs in the Bible.

How is it Useful?

- Find the exact location of any biblical passage
- Find all references to any particular biblical person or subject
- Discover in which book or books of the Bible a particular word appears
- Trace any biblical topic throughout Scripture

2 Types of Concordances:

1. Analytical or Complete Concordance:
Lists all the important words in the Bible.
2. Topical or Concise Concordance:
Smaller and contains only the words that are most often used.

Helpful Hints for Using a Concordance

To find a passage from the Bible, look up in the Concordance the more uncommon word in the passage. For example, the passages that contain “love your neighbor” can be located more quickly if you look under the word “neighbor” rather than if you look under the word “love”. This is true because there are many more references to “love” than “neighbor”.

When looking up a word, remember that words are not the same in different versions of the Bible. For example: Matthew, Chapter 5 in the Revised Standard Version uses the word “blessed” while Today’s English Version uses “happy”.

In the Concordance, following the verse number is the short passage. The key word in each passage is abbreviated to its first letter. For example, under “Humbly” is the verse Micah Chapter 6, shown as “Mic 6”. Following that is the verse “and to walk **h** with your God.” The key word, humbly, is abbreviated to its first letter: h.

When looking up the passages of a word, remember that the list begins with the first book in the Bible where the word can be found. So, if looking up the word “God”, notice that the first reference is in Gen.1.01. Then see how you can trace the references all the way through the books of the Old Testament and then all the way through the New Testament. So, if you can remember what book a passage might be found in, you will speed up your search.

Name: _____

Activity 2

Activity using the “NRSV Exhaustive Concordance”

1. In your Bible, read Genesis Chapter 8, verses 1. (Genesis 8:1)
2. Next, look up the word “Wind” in the Bible Concordance, p. 1393.
Notice that the second Scripture reference for “Wind” is Genesis 8.1.
On the line below, write the passage exactly as it appears in the Bible Concordance.

3. In the Bible Concordance, look at the third reference, (Gen 41.6), with a passage using the word “Wind”. Look that passage up in your Bible to answer the following question:
 - a. What was blasted by the wind? _____