Unleashing Gods Truth, One Verse at a Time®, the MacArthur Study Bible, Personal Size, is like a hand-size Bible encyclopedia. Dr. John MacArthur has collected his pastoral and scholarly work of more than 35 years to create the most comprehensive study Bible available. No other study Bible does such a thorough job of explaining the historical context of the Bible, unfolding the meaning of the text, and making it practical for your life.

**Personal Review: The MacArthur Study Bible: Personal Size by John MacArthur**

The MacArthur Study Bible is the fourth study Bible I have bought. As others have pointed out, you can see the print on the other side through the page, but I did not find this to be a big problem for me. The one I bought is ISBN 978-0-7180-2508-3, the smaller hardcover edition.
Amazon calls it the personal size. The font is small, but there is a large print edition. For me, the thin paper and smaller font also means the book is not so large, and for a Bible that contains so many annotations, I am pleased with the relatively small size and light weight. It is not exactly pocket sized, but it is also not so large that I cannot hold it comfortably. I saw the leather edition at a bookstore and thought it looked quite handsome.

With this Bible I am switching from NRSV (New Revised Standard Version) to NKJV (New King James Version). The NRSV seeks to be gender-neutral even when the original text was not, often altering the intended meaning of the authors. I like the fact that the NKJV is an accurate word-for-word translation, not a dumbed-down paraphrase. Note that there is no English translation that is exactly word-for-word, and NKJV is a little less so than the original KJV. It is designed to be more readable than the old 1611 KJV, but is much more than just the 1611 KJV without the thee's and thou's. The translators had access to all the best Hebrew and Greek manuscripts, including the dead sea scrolls, and they indicate in the center column when other Greek manuscripts disagree with the one they used.

Regarding MacArthur's notes, they are excellent. I don't always agree with his theology, but his commentary is obviously well researched and often much more in-depth than any other study Bible I have used. Also, he did not come up with the notes all on his own, but had a large staff of seminarians helping him. Every bible commentator has biases, but usually they do not state them up front. The included Overview of Theology gives MacArthur's views on several key topics, so you know exactly where he's coming from.

The stated intention of the MacArthur Study Bible is to let "the Word of God speak for itself". Therefore, there are no "life application" essays. The notes give you everything you need to understand the text. However, it is left up to you to read the Scriptures and apply them to your life as the Spirit leads. This may not be to the liking of people who want easy answers handed to them without any effort on their part.

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The MacArthur Study Bible: Personal Size by John MacArthur 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!