INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

Calvary Chapel Palm Harbor February 27, 2021

The Value of the Word, The Nature of the Word

John 5:39 NKJV - "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me."

Hebrews 10:7 NKJV - Then I said, 'Behold, I have come--In the volume of the book it is written of Me--To do Your will, O God.' " (Quoting Psalms 40:7 and attributing this to Jesus)

Luke 24:27 NKJV - And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. (Speaking of Jesus) 2 Timothy 3:16-17 NKJV - 16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

John 17:17 NKJV - "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."

John 8:31-32 NKJV - 31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Psalms 33:11 NKJV - The counsel of the LORD stands forever, The plans of His heart to all generations.

Psalms 119:89 NKJV - Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.

1 Peter 1:25 NKJV - But the word of the LORD endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

Psalms 138:2 NKJV - I will worship toward Your holy temple, And praise Your name For Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.

More Precious Than Gold & Silver

Psalms 119:72 NKJV - The law of Your mouth is better to me Than thousands of coins of gold and silver.

Psalms 119:127 NKJV - Therefore I love Your commandments More than gold, yes, than fine gold!

Proverbs 3:13-15 NKJV - 13 Happy is the man who finds wisdom, And the man who gains understanding; 14 For her proceeds are better than the profits of silver, And her gain than fine gold. 15 She is more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her.

Colossians 2:3 NKJV - in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Seed

Mar 4:14 NKJV - "The sower sows the word."

Col 1:5-6 NKJV - 5 because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel, 6 which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth;

Honey/Honeycomb

Psalms 19:10 NKJV - More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

Psalms 119:103 NKJV - How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Water

Eph 5:26 NKJV - that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

Lamp & Light

Psalms 119:105 NKJV - Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

Psalms 119:130 NKJV - The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.

Proverbs 6:23 NKJV - For the commandment is a lamp, And the law a light; Reproofs of instruction are the way of life,

Fire & Hammer

Jeremiah 20:9 NKJV - Then I said, "I will not make mention of Him, Nor speak anymore in His name." But His word was in my heart like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, And I could not.

Jeremiah 23:29 NKJV - "Is not My word like a fire?" says the LORD, "And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?"

Sword

Ephesians 6:17 NKJV - 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

Hebrews 4:12 NKJV - 12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The Critical Role of the Holy Spirit in all Bible Study

John 14:26 "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." John 16:13 "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come."

Asking for God to work in us through His Word

Psalm 119 (NKJV)

- 18 Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law.
- 27 Make me understand the way of Your precepts; So shall I meditate on Your wonderful works.
- 34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep Your law; Indeed, I shall observe it with [my] whole heart.
- 73 Your hands have made me and fashioned me; Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.
- 125 I am Your servant; Give me understanding, That I may know Your testimonies.
- 169 Let my cry come before You, O LORD; Give me understanding according to Your word.

Psalm 119 (NLT)

- 18 Open my eyes to see the wonderful truths in your instructions.
- 27 Help me understand the meaning of your commandments, and I will meditate on your wonderful deeds.
- 34 Give me understanding and I will obey your instructions; I will put them into practice with all my heart.
- 73 You made me; you created me. Now give me the sense to follow your commands.
- 125 Give discernment to me, your servant; then I will understand your laws.
- 130 The teaching of your word gives light, so even the simple can understand.
- 169 O LORD, listen to my cry; give me the discerning mind you promised.

The CORE of our focus

Begin with prayer. Invite the work of the Holy Spirit, prayers like in the Psalm 119 verses covered above.

Be humble and teachable. You want His will in be done in you and through you. You want Him to transform you and make you more like Him.

Be an active reader. Ask questions as you're reading. Continue to pray in the same fashion while you're reading. Be an engaged reader. Have an ongoing conversation with God. Read relationally.

Read to know Jesus better. Read to grow in Him.

"If we speak to the Lord about the Word, the Word will speak to us about the Lord!" Warren Wiersbe

OBSERVATION

The first component of our focus is **OBSERVATION**. It not just what we see but a deeper consideration. You can drive a familiar route seeing many things along the way, but upon arrival not remember the particular details of that path. In much the same manner we can read the Bible without observing the detail. We can close the book with very little interaction with it or very little effect. Observation requires that you slow down and focus.

"You can observe a lot by watching." Yogi Berra

A Conversation with Sherlock Holmes and Watson

Holmes: "You **see**, but you do not **observe**. The distinction is clear. For example, you have frequently seen the steps which lead up from the hall to this room."

Watson: "Frequently."

Holmes: "How often?"

Watson: "Well, some hundreds of times."

Holmes: "Then how many are there?"

Watson: "How many? I don't know."

Holmes: "Quite so! You have not observed. And yet you have seen. That is just my point. Now, I know that there are seventeen steps, because I have both seen and observed" ("A Scandal in Bohemia" in The Complete Sherlock Holmes. New York: Doubleday, 1927)

One of the first questions asked is "What do I see?" In observing we are not just speaking of the words seen on the page, but now with focused intent we considering with all our senses. We consider by inviting the work of the Holy Spirit and using the abilities that God has given us; your mind, your senses, your heart.

"I study my Bible as I gather apples. First, I shake the whole tree that the ripest might fall. Then I shake each limb, and when I have shaken each limb, I shake each branch and every twig. Then I look under every leaf. I shake the Bible as a whole, like shaking the whole tree. Then I shake every limb—study book after book. Then I shake every branch, giving attention to the chapters when they do not break the sense. Then I shake every twig, or a careful study of the paragraphs and sentences and words and their meanings." Martin Luther

Observation - What does it say? What do we see?

- Read and reread the passage. Pray. Think.
- Read the passage in different translations.
- Understand and hold to the context.
- Determine what style of literature you are studying and handle it accordingly.
- Reread the passage. Pray. Think.
- Be analytical. Be an investigator. Gather all sorts of facts. Ask questions to help you observe the facts: The 5W's & H - Who, What, Where, When, Why, & How. Find out what happened. Get the details and facts. What was taught?
 What happened?
- Describe the scene in detail. Staying true to the text be able to retell the story in your own words.
- Reread the passage. Pray. Think.
- Mark any key words, repeated words or phrases, and commands. Look for conclusion terms; therefore, finally, so that, for this reason.
- Watch pronouns, identify who they are associated with, watch for changes.
- Reread the passage. Pray. Think.
- Pay attention to comparisons and contrasts.
- Notice themes and their development.
- Reread the passage. Pray. Think.

INTERPRETATION

Psalms 111:10 NKJV - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.

Psa 119:104, 130, 144 NKJV -

104 Through Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way. ...
130 The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple. ...
144 The righteousness of Your testimonies is everlasting; Give me understanding, and I shall live.

When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense; therefore, take every word at its primary, ordinary, usual, literal meaning unless the facts of the immediate context, studied in light of related passages and axiomatic and fundamental truths, indicate clearly otherwise. (David L. Cooper, The World's Greatest Library Graphically Illustrated. Los Angeles: Biblical Research Society, 1970)

The general rule of interpreting Scripture is this: the literal sense of every text is to be taken, if it be not contrary to some other texts. But in that case, the obscure text is to be interpreted by those which speak more plainly... Try all things by the written word, and let all bow down before it. You are in danger of fanaticism every hour, if you depart ever so little from Scripture; yea, or from the plain, literal meaning of an text, taken in connection with the context. John Wesley

Interpretation - What does it mean?

- Context Context Context is the rule. Never twist a passage out of context to fit your need. Understand the passages, know the surrounding passages, the chapter, the book. Even the context of the whole of the Bible, the whole counsel of God. It is dangerous to build doctrine on one or two verses.
- What does the author intend in this passage? What would that original audience understood? What teaching or principle is the writer (Ultimately the Holy Spirit) trying to communicate?
- Look at other Scriptures that relate to the passage. Ask the Holy Spirit for direction (Remember John 14:26 He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you & John 16:13 ...He will guide you into all truth...) These are usually found in the margins of Bibles or in footnotes. What do other verses say about this thought or idea? Remember the Bible that you have already stored up. It has been said the best commentary on the Bible is the Bible itself.
- Be literal

- When available use some of the language study helps to get a clearer meaning of the passage as needed: Bible dictionaries, Vine's Expository Dictionary. Use an english dictionary to define any unfamiliar terms or ideas.
- When you come across difficult passages follow the above steps. Accessible
 passages will illuminate difficult ones. Don't get bogged down or caught up in
 a quagmire. Move through the Word.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance.
- Carry these thoughts into your daily routine. Talk to the Lord about the passage. Interact with Him and the text you are studying.
- After this process has been thoroughly worked then if you would like access available commentaries and teachings to make sure you are out on a weak limb of a crazy tree.

APPLICATION

Heb 12:1 NKJV - 1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us

"One step forward in obedience is worth years of study about it" Oswald Chambers

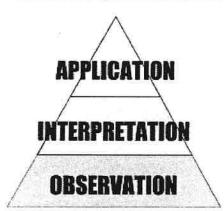
"It is a good thing to be a student of the Word, but only in order to be a practiser and experiencer of the Word." Dr. Martyn-Lloyd Jones

"Our great problem is the problem of trafficking in unlived truth. We try to communicate what we've never experienced in our own lives." D L Moody

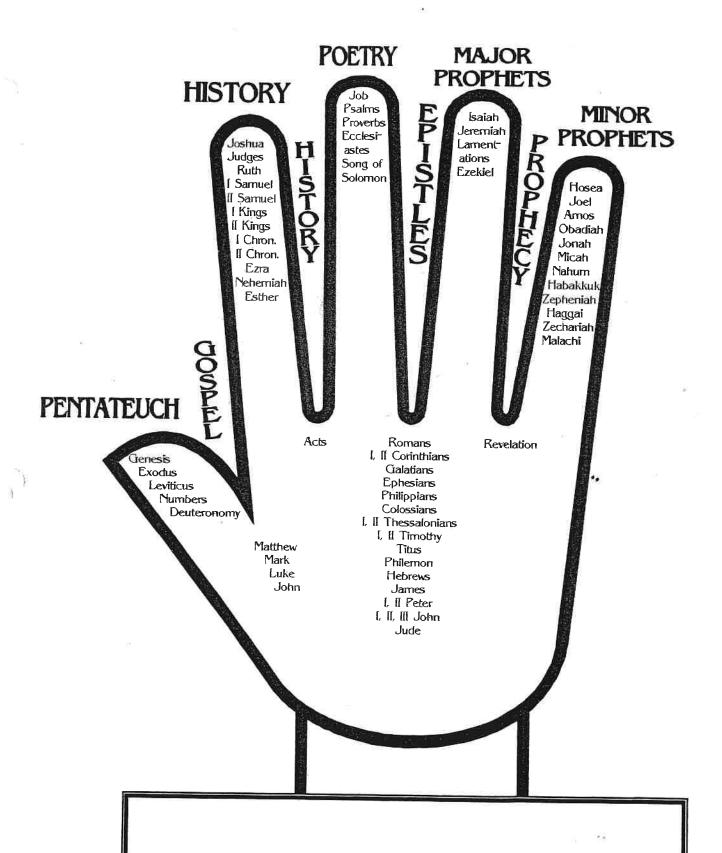
Application - What does God want to do in me and through me?

- How does the principle apply to one specific area of my life? (Application)
- How is the Holy Spirit speaking to me through this study? Ask Him.
- What do I need to hear? What do I need to attend to? What do I need to prayer about? What needs to change?
- What is to be stored in my heart?
- Phl 2:12-13 NKJV 12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

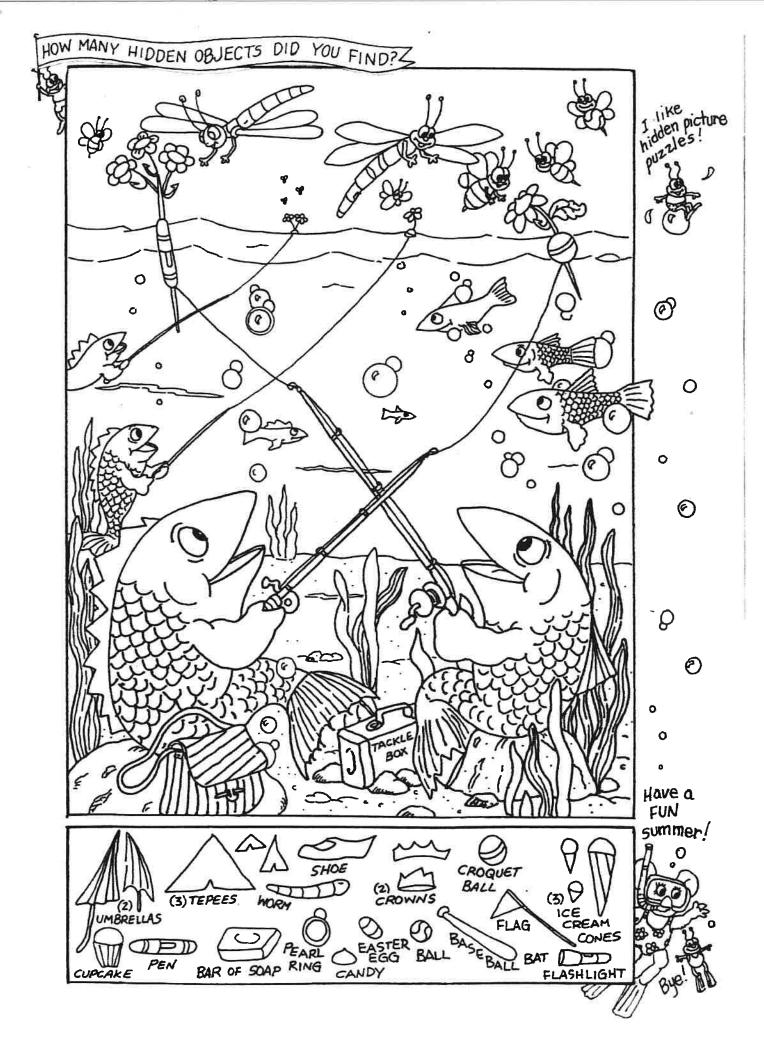
The Building process of Inductive Bible Study



A good thorough foundation of Observation will allow you to make solid Interpretation, which will bring you to good Application. Don't skip or speed through the process. In quantity you should have ample Observation, a bit less Interpretation, and one or two at the most three Application(s.) See the making the shape of an arrow. Your study is bringing your building process to a sharp point of application. Not enough foundation of observation will lead to weak interpretation resulting in dull application. The application of the Word needs to be sharp to pierce the heart.



Teach the whole Bible. Remember Paul's farewell sermon to the Ephesian elders, "For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God."



Detective Nose in The Case Of The Convenience Store Robbery

Thank heavens you're here!" exclaimed 17 year old Robbie, the clerk at the little corner convenience store where I often buy my morning coffee. I'd ducked in out of the rain to grab a coffee and muffin on my way to meet my niece Crystal before school. She always called on me to help when she had problems, and this one was a pretty small one – she needed to borrow \$5 for a class trip.

The little store was warm and cozy despite the driving rain outside, and I was pleased to note that Robbie was obviously doing a good job of keeping the place neat and tidy. The floor was spotless, and all the shelves were neatly arranged.

"What's wrong, Robbie?" I asked.

"You just missed them!" the young boy told me. "Two men just burst into here, held a gun on me and demanded all the money in the register. Mr. Loan says if that happens, we should just give it over, so I did, but as soon as they were gone, I ran outside to see if I could get their license number, or at least see the car they were driving."

"What did you see?" I asked him, frowning at the thought of my niece's friend in such a dangerous situation.

"Well, I had to run halfway out into the parking lot, but as they passed under the light at the end of the road, I realized that it was Bart Petersen's car! I can't believe that Bart Petersen just robbed the Store!"

"I don't believe it either, Robbie. You'd better put the money back because if you tell the police that story, you're going to be arrested."
How did Detective Nose know that Robbie was lying?

ANSWER

It was pouring rain outside. The convenience store was "neat and tidy. The floor was spotless, and all the shelves were neatly arranged." Robbie stated to the detective "You just missed them!" Detective Nose knew that Robbie didn't have time to clean up the store with all the commotion, rain, and mud that would have been tracked in.

Mysterydigest.com

Psalm 32

- ¹ Blessed *is he whose* transgression *is* forgiven, *Whose* sin *is* covered.
- ${f ^2}$ Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity,

And in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³ When I kept silent, my bones grew old

Through my groaning all the day long.

⁴ For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;

My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. Selah

⁵ I acknowledged my sin to You,

And my iniquity I have not hidden.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"

And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah

⁶ For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You

In a time when You may be found;

Surely in a flood of great waters

They shall not come near him.

⁷ You are my hiding place;

You shall preserve me from trouble;

You shall surround me with songs of deliverance. Selah

⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;

I will guide you with My eye.

⁹ Do not be like the horse *or* like the mule,

Which have no understanding,

Which must be harnessed with bit and bridle,

Else they will not come near you.

¹⁰ Many sorrows *shall be* to the wicked;

But he who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him.

¹¹ Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous;

And shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

Ephesians 1

¹ Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God,

To the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus:

- ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, ⁴ just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.
- ⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace ⁸ which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, ⁹ having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good, pleasure which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰ that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. ¹¹ In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, ¹² that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.
- ¹³ In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.
- ¹⁵ Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰ which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.
- ²² And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

1 Samuel 23:1-13

- ¹ Then they told David, saying, "Look, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah, and they are robbing the threshing floors."
- ² Therefore David inquired of the Lord, saying, "Shall I go and attack these Philistines?" And the Lord said to David, "Go and attack the Philistines, and save Keilah."
- ³ But David's men said to him, "Look, we are afraid here in Judah. How much more then if we go to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?" ⁴ Then David inquired of the Lord once again.

And the Lord answered him and said, "Arise, go down to Keilah. For I will deliver the Philistines into your hand." ⁵ And David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines, struck them with a mighty blow, and took away their livestock. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

- ⁶ Now it happened, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David at Keilah, *that* he went down *with* an ephod in his hand.
- ⁷ And Saul was told that David had gone to Keilah. So Saul said, "God has delivered him into my hand, for he has shut himself in by entering a town that has gates and bars." ⁸ Then Saul called all the people together for war, to go down to Keilah to besiege David and his men.
- ⁹ When David knew that Saul plotted evil against him, he said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring the ephod here." ¹⁰ Then David said, "O Lord God of Israel, Your servant has certainly heard that Saul seeks to come to Keilah to destroy the city for my sake. ¹¹ Will the men of Keilah deliver me into his hand? Will Saul come down, as Your servant has heard? O Lord God of Israel, I pray, tell Your servant."

And the Lord said, "He will come down."

¹² Then David said, "Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul?"

And the Lord said, "They will deliver you."

¹³ So David and his men, about six hundred, arose and departed from Keilah and went wherever they could go. Then it was told Saul that David had escaped from Keilah; so he halted the expedition.

Mark 6:30-44

- ³⁰ Then the apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught. ³¹ And He said to them, "Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat. ³² So they departed to a deserted place in the boat by themselves.
- ³³ But the multitudes saw them departing, and many knew Him and ran there on foot from all the cities. They arrived before them and came together to Him. ³⁴ And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things. ³⁵ When the day was now far spent, His disciples came to Him and said, "This is a deserted place, and already the hour *is* late. ³⁶ Send them away, that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves bread; for they have nothing to eat."
- ³⁷ But He answered and said to them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to Him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give them *something* to eat?"
- ³⁸ But He said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they found out they said, "Five, and two fish."
- ³⁹ Then He commanded them to make them all sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in ranks, in hundreds and in fifties. ⁴¹ And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven, blessed and broke the loaves, and gave *them* to His disciples to set before them; and the two fish He divided among *them* all. ⁴² So they all ate and were filled. ⁴³ And they took up twelve baskets full of fragments and of the fish. ⁴⁴ Now those who had eaten the loaves were about five thousand men.

John 20:24-31

²⁴ Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord."

So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

²⁶ And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand *here*, and put *it* into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."

²⁸ And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed *are* those who have not seen and *yet* have believed."

³⁰ And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

The Golden Rule of Interpretation

When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense; therefore, take every word at its primary, ordinary, usual, literal meaning unless the facts of the immediate context, studied in the light of related passages and axiomatic and fundamental truths, indicates clearly otherwise.