



Inductive Bible Study



For any passage of Scripture, try using the following three steps to get the most out of your study time.

Observation –

Identify the who, what, when, where, why, and how.

- Who is speaking? Who is the audience?
- What is the subject? What is happening? What ideas are being discussed?
- When are events taking place?
- Where did the events take place?
- Why did these events take place? (“so that”, “in order that”)
- How do the events take place?

Note the words or phrases that strike you as important or confusing

Look for repeated words or phrases

Watch for lists of descriptive words

Highlight comparisons and contrasts

Interpretation –

Define words or phrases that are unknown.

Look for themes and patterns that highlight the intention of the passage.

Identify the context: how does this fit with what comes before and after?

The historical facts of the passage: how does an understanding of the times help me interpret this passage?

Lastly, try to put the passage into your own words.

Application –

How does this passage impact my relationship with God?

How does this passage impact my understanding of myself?

How does this passage impact my connection with other people?

Then, dig down further in each area to get specific takeaways to act on.