

Bible Study Bookmark

OBSERVATION – *What does it say?*

Details to observe:

- ☐ Who
- ☐ What
- ☐ When
- ☐ Where
- ☐ Why
- ☐ How

Literary connections:

- ☐ Repetition (same term)
- ☐ Continuity (similar term)
- ☐ Contrast – *but, however*
- ☐ Comparison – *like*
- ☐ Cause to Effect – *when, so, after*
- ☐ Effect to Cause – *because, since*
- ☐ Means to End – *so that, in order that*
- ☐ Logical Conclusion – *if, then, therefore*
- ☐ General to Particular
- ☐ Particular to General
- ☐ Climax
- ☐ Preparation or Introduction
- ☐ Explanation or Illustration
- ☐ Interrogation (question and answer)

Also:

- ☐ Know the genre of the passage (poetry, history, prophecy, etc.)
- ☐ Look up the author and intended recipients
- ☐ Look up any geographical or cultural references
- ☐ Look up any direct cross references
- ☐ Note any stated purpose behind events
- ☐ Note any stated interpretations/conclusions given in the passage
- ☐ What is the mood/tone of the passage
- ☐ In what manner or method are things accomplished

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INTERPRETATION – *What does it mean?*

Ask interpretive questions:

- ☐ Why did the author/character do...?
- ☐ What is the significance of...?
- ☐ What is the implication of...?
- ☐ Why was this event included here?
- ☐ How did people react? Why?

Answer interpretive questions:

- ☐ Look for clues in the passage
- ☐ Look at the context of the passage
- ☐ *Do not* answer questions the passage does not provide answers to

Find the central meaning:

- ☐ The author's *main point* is...
- ☐ The implications for the original hearer/reader were...
- ☐ The implications for today are...
(personal, family, campus, church,...)

APPLICATION – *What will I do?*

Meditate on:

- ☐ Sin for me to repent of?
- ☐ Promise for me to claim?
- ☐ Example for me to follow?
- ☐ Error for me to avoid?
- ☐ Command for me to obey?
- ☐ Knowledge of God to believe?
- ☐ Something to pray about?

How will I change?

- ☐ "By God's help I will..."
(be very *practical*, be specific)
- ☐ I will do it _____
(when, where, how, with whom)
- ☐ I will ask _____ to hold me accountable
- ☐ I will act in faith, based on these promises from God: _____