

30 x 5 BIBLE STUDY – AT A GLANCE

INITIATION

(for the whole book)

PRAYER - Commit yourself to DO whatever God teaches you.

READ REPEATEDLY

BACKGROUND STUDY

- Author, Place, Date, Intended Audience,
- Theme of Book, Key Words/ Phrases for Book
- Type of Literature

Open my eyes, that I may behold wonderful things from Your law. (Ps 119:18)

OBSERVATION – ABC’s

What do I see?

A. ASK QUESTIONS OF THE TEXT

- **WHO?** – Characters
- **WHAT?** – Progression of thought
- **WHEN?** – Time
- **WHERE?** – Location
- **WHY?** – Purpose
- **HOW?** – Logic and application

B. APPLY THE “LHOF” (LEFT HANDED OBSERVATIONAL FACTS)

Look for things that are...

1. EMPHASIZED (1st finger)

- Commands, Advice, Admonitions, Warnings, Promises
- Use of OT passages in NT
- Amount of Space (repeated)
- Stated Purpose
- Order of Material - Movement from Lesser to Greater

OBSERVATION – ABC’s (cont.)

2. REPEATED (2nd finger)

- Terms, Phrases, Clauses, Key Words
- Characters, Incidents (recurrence in story)
- Patterns

3. RELATED (ring finger)

- Movement from general to specific
- Rhetorical questions
- Little words & particles
- Connectives – AND, BUT, FOR
- Cause & Effect Relationship: For, Because
- Purpose/ Reasons / Results – So that, In order that
- Conditional – IF – THEN
- Logical Conclusion: So then, therefore

4. ALIKE/ COMPARE (pinkie)

- “As”, “Like”
- Simile & Metaphor

5. UNALIKE/ CONTRAST (thumb)

- “But”
- Contrasting Statements/ Thoughts

6. TRUE TO LIFE (palm – life line)

- Use your “sanctified imagination”
- Resonate with your experience
- Tone – Emotions & mood
- Emphatic statements that reveal feelings of characters/ author
- If genre is narrative, identify: Characters, Protagonist, Antagonist, Conflict, Plot, Climax, and Result

C. ASK THE SUBJECT QUESTION

Determine and write out: *“What question is this paragraph of Scripture answering?”*

INTERPRETATION

What does it mean?

The 6 “C’s” of interpretation:

1. **CIRCLE A QUESTION** – Pick 2 or 3 of your questions and focus on them.
2. **CONTENT** – What do the facts from Observation allow it to mean?
3. **CONTEXT** – Especially Literary
 - Genre
 - Circles of Meaning (Immediate, Larger, Sectional, Book, Bible)
4. **COMPARISON**
 - Scripture with Scripture – Especially within the same book
 - Compare theology – parallel concepts
5. **CULTURE & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

This sheds light on the meaning.

 - Author – Who is he? Where is he from? Background? Employment? What was his life like? Attitudes? Personality?
 - Original audience – Who were they? Where were they? Jews or Gentiles?
 - What issues were they dealing with?
 - Geographic setting
6. **CONSULTANTS** (Commentary, etc.)
 - Word Studies – Words that are repeated, unusual, main verbs, adjectives & adverbs
 - Use of Resource Tools – Bible Dictionaries, Handbooks, Commentaries

ANSWER the Subject Question as a summary of the paragraph.

“It can never mean what it never meant.” (G. Fee)

APPLICATION

What do I do?

3 Step Process of Application

1. REVIEW

- Review your “subject question”
- Review your “transferable principle.”
- Remember, Scripture has one interpretation, but many applications!

2. PRACTICE

*What should you **PRACTICE**? What . . .*

- **P**romise should I claim?
- **R**elationship should I build (or bust!)? What does this passage teach about the following relationships? What changes are necessary? See how it **G-O-E-S**:
 - **G**od
 - **O**ther people (family, friends, enemies, unsaved)
 - **E**nemy (Satan, the World, Flesh)
 - **S**elf
- **A**ttitude should I adjust?
- **C**ondition should I meet?
- **T**respass (sin) should I confess?
- **I**mperative (command) should I do?
- **C**hallenge should I face?
- **E**xample should I follow?

3. MEDITATE

- Pick a key verse to memorize.
- Contemplate it *and DO IT!* (*Ja 1:22*)

DEVELOP THE **BIG IDEA**: *The timeless principle in a concise and memorable statement.*