

# How to: Observation

## Lesson Three

### I. Introduction to \_\_\_\_\_ Bible study

- Checklist:

- Integrity of heart/Desire for it
- Passion for the Scriptures
- Time
- Tools
  - Study Bible - Life Application Study Bible, Scofield Study Bible, The New Open Bible, and Charles Ryrie Study Bible
  - Bible Geography Maps/Atlases
  - Bible Dictionary
  - Concordance

### II. Steps of inductive Bible study (from Hendricks)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ - What is it saying?
2. \_\_\_\_\_ - What does this mean for my life today?
3. \_\_\_\_\_ - How should I respond?

KEY THOUGHT: Context is king!

### III. Diving into Observation

- Ordinary rules of \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ of book, chapter, and paragraph of where the verse exists
- If the phrase or verse is in a poem or parable or \_\_\_\_\_, take that into consideration
- Consider the original words/\_\_\_\_\_

### IV. Process of Observation:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. Who's writing this
  - ii. Why were they writing it
  - iii. What's the historical context
    1. Time period
    2. Cultural setting
    3. Geographical locale
    4. World events
  - i. Who's receiving this
  - ii. When was this being written (dates)
  - iii. Who are the key players
    - "It cannot mean to me what it did not mean to its original audience"
2. \_\_\_\_\_
  - This is textual flow. See how this verse fits in this paragraph, this paragraph in this section (*sometimes* chapter), this section in the book, this book in the Testaments, this Testament and book in the Bible.
3. Things to \_\_\_\_\_ for:
  - i. Things that are emphasized
    1. Importance is given in textual volume
    2. Stated purposes are very important
    3. Order and strategic placement
    4. Movements from lesser to greater
  - ii. Things that are repeated
    1. Terms
    2. Characters
    3. Events
    4. Patterns - peace violated and restored; quotes of OT in NT
  - iii. Things that are related
    1. General to specific
    2. Alike
      - Similes

- Word pictures
3. Unlike
  4. Negative metaphors
  - iv. Things that are true to life
4. Personal \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. Swimming in the text
    - ii. Pause and give some good time to read the text and engage it
    - iii. Restate the verse in your own words
  5. \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_
    - The Bible is the best commentary on itself!
  6. Persistence and \_\_\_\_\_

V. If there's a conflict:

- How's the subject \_\_\_\_\_ introduced in Scripture
- Is there \_\_\_\_\_ Scripture to help me understand this unclear Scripture
- Is this resolved in \_\_\_\_\_ revelation

VI. How to engage with the text:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ it for other people
2. Read \_\_\_\_\_ sections
3. \_\_\_\_\_ chapter and verse divisions
4. Read it out \_\_\_\_\_
5. Read by \_\_\_\_\_