

PRECEPT-UPON-PRECEPT

ORIENTATION TO INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

HOW TO STUDY YOUR BIBLE INDUCTIVELY

There are three keys to studying the Bible: **Observation**, **Interpretation**, and **Application**. Homework assignments from the workbook are broken up into five one-hour sessions per lesson. Always begin and end your study with prayer, because “Faith comes from hearing, and hearing from the word of Christ.” -Romans 10:17.

OBSERVATION – DISCOVER WHAT IT SAYS 2 PETER 3:16

- 1. Read the book (or assigned material) once to get a general impression of it.
- 2. Read again and begin to establish context (that which goes with the text).
- 3. Ask the “Five W’s and an H” in relationship to the context:

Context of:
Context of:

Bible
Bible

Book

WHERE	se	
are the main characters? did or will this happen? was it said?	enc	
WHERE	as	
E	ord	
are the main characters? did or will this happen? was it said?		WHY was it written?
		WHY was it written?
WHAT		WHY was it written?
is the theme? is the subject or event do you learn about people, event, teaching from the text? instructions are given?		was it said, mentioned? would or will this happen? at this time? this person? was it said, mentioned? would or will this happen? at this time? this person? was it said, mentioned? would or will this happen? at this time? this person?

WHE

N

was it written? do or will
events occur? did or will
something happen?

HOW will it

happen?

HOW will it

happen?

HOW will it

happen?

HOW will it

happen?

is it to be

done? is it

illustrated?

is it to be

done? is it

illustrated?

4. Read again, look for, and mark: people, places, events, and repeated (key) words. See reverse for sample marking symbols. Marking slows down the observation process to enable discovery. 5. Mark expressions of time words ("then", "after this", "until", "when", "now", "soon", "as soon as"). 6. Mark terms of conclusion words ("wherefore", "therefore", "so", "for", "for this reason", "finally"). 7. Mark contrast words ("but", "however", "yet", "nevertheless", "on the other hand") 8. Mark comparison words ("like", "as", "such as"; also, metaphors) 9. Mark warnings ("beware", "heed") 10. Mark exhortations ("let us") 11. Mark instructions ("do", "do not", "shall", "shall not"). 12. Look for lists, which reveal truths and highlight important concepts. What gave you an "aha!" 13. Develop chapter themes.

INTERPRETATION – DISCOVER WHAT IT MEANS PROVERBS 3:5

1. Context rules. Consider each verse in light of surrounding verses, its book, entire Word of God. 2. Always seek the full counsel of the Word of God; never take it out of context; interpret literally. 3. Remember that scripture is God-inspired and never contradicts other scripture. 4. Look for the single meaning of the passage. 5. Use tools, such as word studies, cross-references, but leave commentaries for last.

APPLICATION – DISCOVER HOW IT WORKS 2 TIMOTHY 3:16, 17

1. What are life lessons: What does the passage teach me? Mean to me? Require of me? 2. Does this section of scripture expose any error in my beliefs or in my behavior? 3. What is God's instruction to me as His child?

¹ Some paraphrased materials from The New Inductive Study Bible. Precept Ministries International. Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, Oregon. 2000. p

Symbols

grace

God, Father,
Names of
God

Jesus, Son of
God, Son of Man,
Lamb of God, Light,
Bread, Life

Holy,
Holines
s
Holy,
Holines
s

Holy Spirit,
God's Spirit,
Spirit of God
Holy Spirit,
God's Spirit,
Spirit of God

Nation of Israel,
the land, Hebrews,
Jews, Jacob
Nation of Israel,
the land, Hebrews,
Jews, Jacob
Nation of Israel,
the land, Hebrews,
Jews, Jacob

Atone,
Atonement,
Covered, Covered
over

Blood

Covenant,
Promise,
Agreement

Crown,
Reward

Day of the
Lord, The
Lord's Day,

	That day		
	Eternal life		y, eep Vail
	Judge. Judging, Judgment		path
		Gospel, Message	ad, e
			i
	Kingdom (God's or man's)	Listen, Hear	od's /e od's /e
	Locations, Cities, Countries, Parts of buildings		
	Poured out		lw, ommandment
	Redeem, Redemption		lw, ommandment
	Righteous, Righteousness		
	Suffer		iv
	"Un-", "Dis-" before a word		ay, ayed
Believe, Faith, Truth			ayer
			amnan
Circumcise, Circumcise d			gns, iracles
Cross, Crucify, Crucifixio			onders

Tabernacle

Terms of Conclusion

(therefore, so, for,
finally, wherefore)

Bless,
Blessing
s

Bless,
Blessing
s

Coming of the
Lord, His coming
Coming of the
Lord, His coming

Cross of
Victory
Cross of
Victory

Curs
e
Curs
e

Satan, Devil, Evil
Spirits, demons,
Mediums,
Serpents
Satan, Devil, Evil
Spirits, demons,
Mediums,
Serpents

Look, See,
Behold, Beheld
Witnessed
Look, See,
Behold, Beheld
Witnessed

Nations

,
Gentile
s

Nations

,
Gentile
s

Rain,
Flood
d
Rain,
Flood
d

Repent,
Repentance
Repent,
Repentance

Sin, Iniquity,
Transgression
Sin, Iniquity,
Transgression

Time ("until", "then",
"when", "after",
etc.) Feasts

Time ("until", "then",
"when", "after",
etc.) Feasts

Wrath

,
Anger
Wrath

,
Anger