

*THE MAIN GOAL OF BIBLE STUDY: DON'T JUST INTERPRET IT, BUT APPLY IT TO YOUR LIFE!!!*

**STEP I: Pray: "KNOWING THE KNOWABLE:"**  
BRINGING OUR MIND TO BE RIGHT WITH GOD!

**ATTITUDE is crucial!!!** (Gal. 2:20)

- ◆ REMEMBER TO ALWAYS: BEGIN and END YOUR STUDY IN PRAYER and in the meantime be in prayer.
- ◆ DIRECT YOUR WILL AND SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY!!! BE CONSISTENT!!!
- ◆ BE OPEN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

**STEP II: Read: "HOW:" THE METHOD OF GETTING INTO GOD'S WORD**

**LOOK AT THE WHOLE BOOK** at least three times in an easy to read translation. Then read each chapter you are studying in a good translation at least three times. Then read the verses, verse by verse in order.

**STEP III: "OBSERVE IT:" ASK WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY?!** Before you ask what does it mean and how to apply it to your life!

- ◆ Give the Book the "Looks:" Purpose; Repeated Phrases; The Point; Who is involved; The time & sequence of events, "once, then, now, will be, etc." Look for persons, places, ideas; Logical Connectives, i.e. Therefore, But, Since, So, Thus, Because, For, That, etc. What is actually being said?
- ◆ Verbs are crucial! Check out **NOUNS** in "Bible Dictionaries."
- ◆ Consider repeated words & phrases.
- ◆ Compare passage/verse to similar verses i.e. "Scripture interprets scripture." Use a "Concordance."
- ◆ Notice what is being taught
- ◆ Notice the promises
- ◆ Notice carefully the underlining principle(s) & implications
- ◆ What about the life, work, teaching, presence of Jesus Christ?
- ◆ Look out for types of "literary style;" history, philosophy, drama, poetry, wisdom and law.
- ◆ Look at different translations

**STEP IV: "SCRUTINIZE IT:" ASK WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE MEAN?**

**Let God have His way with you!** Ask our Lord to open you before Him, to allow yourself to go beyond your culture, education and experience! Then the meaning will come alive!

**Q: What is God telling me?**

- ◆ We must know our weaknesses and limitations because of sin!
- ◆ We must be aware of our nature and the nature of Scripture and the Divine Authors intent.
- ◆ Be focused on Christ not ourselves.
- ◆ Be aware of the CONTEXT!!!! The "historical" and "literary" settings?" What is going on?
- ◆ What is the point and train of thought?
- ◆ ANALYZE by gathering facts and all the information available to you.
- ◆ Paraphrase the passage yourself.
- ◆ What is supported?
- ◆ What are the conclusions?

**Q: How am I encouraged and strengthened?**

**Make an emotional identification into the text.** Place yourself into the text as if it is your story as if you are there!

**THINGS TO ASK AND TO APPLY:**

- ◆ Ask what is actually being said?
- ◆ Try reading aloud!
- ◆ Consider nothing insignificant!
- ◆ Have a mentor to ask questions.
- ◆ Look for stuff to carry out in your life.
- ◆ Write down your questions
- ◆ What are the implications & promises to be applied to transformed us?
- ◆ What about the life, work, teaching, and presence of Jesus Christ?
- ◆ How can I model His Character?
- ◆ What is our duty?
- ◆ What is God's character?
- ◆ Make a commitment to the meaning.
- ◆ Try to write the verse or entire passage in your own words!
- ◆ Accept what It says: This is God's Word!

**Q: Is there a sin in my life for which confession and repentance is needed?**

## STEP V: "QUESTIONS:" ASK AND LEARN!!!

**Q: How can I be changed so I can learn and grow?**

### THE SIX BIG Q'S WE MUST ALWAYS ASK!

- ◆ **WHO:** are the people? Who did it? Who can do it? Who is it talking about?
- ◆ **WHAT:** is it saying? What is happening? What is it talking about? What did they do?
- ◆ **WHERE:** are they going? Where did it happen? Where will it take place?
- ◆ **WHEN:** did it happen? When will it happen? When can it happen?
- ◆ **HOW:** did it happen? How can it happen? How was something done?
- ◆ **WHY:** did he say that? Why did he do that? Why did they go there?

### ASK THESE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- ◆ Are there any commands?
- ◆ Are there any contrasts?
- ◆ Are there things repeated?
- ◆ Is there cause and effect?
- ◆ Is there a problem and solution?
- ◆ Are there any promises?
- ◆ Are there any connections to other parts of the Bible?
- ◆ Notice the setting!

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## STEP VI: "KNOW IT"!!!

### START LOOKING FOR THE ANSWERS

**Q: What is in the way of these precepts affecting me? What is in the way of my listening to God?**

- ◆ WHAT DOES SOMETHING MEAN AND WHY IS IT THERE?
- ◆ Be sure your information is correct!!!
- ◆ Use good commentaries, Study Bibles, and Bible dictionaries.

### Digging Personally:

- ◆ How are you encouraged & strengthened?
- ◆ Where have you fallen short, and how can you improve?
- ◆ What do you now intend to do with the information given to you?
- ◆ We must have the confidence that the Bible is truth! This is knowing It!

- ◆ We must allow God's Word to break our will and desires over to His!
- ◆ What did God say to you today?
- ◆ Is there a sin in your life that needs to be confessed and repented?
- ◆ Are you appreciating it?
- ◆ Are you receiving and practicing the great benefits to others around you?
- ◆ Are you a changed person as a result of receiving the Word?

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## STEP VII: "APPLICATION!!!" (Gal 5:21-26)

**Q: How does this apply to me? What will I do about it?**

- ◆ Application comes out of a Changed life. And leads to a life transformed!
- ◆ What must I do to make God's Word real in me? What is my response?
- ◆ When will it end up in my day planner?
- ◆ Mediate over the passage

### ASK YOURSELF THESE FIVE QUESTIONS:

- ◆ What illustration can I use to remember?
- ◆ How does the truth apply to my life?
- ◆ What is my personal prayer regarding these truths?
- ◆ What changes/improvements could I make in light of the truth?
- ◆ How should I carry out these changes?
- ◆ **Pray** to ask God how to implement His truth to you. Tell Others. Accountability.

**Q: What can I model and teach? What does God want me to share with someone?**

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## STEP VII: MAKE USE OF THE BOOK CHART

- ◆ Write down what God is saying to you and what you have discovered and learned. By doing this, it will allow you to apply it to your life better!

### "You can do it!"

Keep this guide "tucked" in your Bible for reference and guidance.