

A BRIEF GUIDE TO INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

1. Pray

ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY AND FOR GOD TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO YOU AS YOU READ HIS WORD.

2. Observe

WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

1. Ask investigative questions:

- **Who** is speaking? Who are the main people? Who is being spoken to?
- **What** is happening? What is the scene? What is the cultural context of the passage?
- **Where** is the passage taking place?
- **When** did or will the events take place?
- **How** did people respond? How did Jesus react?

2. Look for **grammatical connections**: repeated words, comparisons, contrast, cause, and effect.

3. Identify **keywords** and **phrases**.

4. Note **verb tenses**.

5. Look for **conjunctions** such as since and therefore. Why are those words in the sentence?

3. Interpret

WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN?

1. Answer a few **questions** based on your observations of the text.

- If Jesus spoke, why did he say what he said? Why did people respond the way they did?
- Why was this teaching important to the people in the original context?
- How can that original importance relate to us today?
- What is revealed about Jesus? What is revealed about God's Kingdom?

2. Try to **summarize** the passage in one sentence. What is the main point the author communicates to the audience?

4. Apply

WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN FOR ME?

1. How do you **respond** to what the passage is saying?

2. Does this passage challenge how you see the world?

3. Is there a central truth you can **put into practice**?

4. What are the implications of the passage for the community of which you are a part?



THE CHAPEL