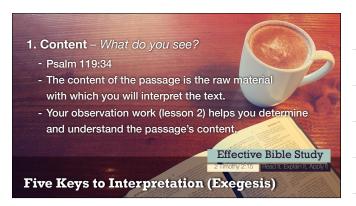


Exegesis means to bring out the meaning of a text as it was intended by the original author.



Lesson 2:

Reading the Bible & Deciphering Its Theme 2 Timothy 2:15

Effective Bible Study

Learn to Observe as You Read

- A. When reading within a particular text, be sure to note the following four things:
- a. The words are the basic building blocks with which you decipher the meaning of the text.

b. The Gospel of John uses the term "believe" very purposefully. That term unlocks meaning.

Reading the Bible & ture. W Effective Bible Study Deciphering tts cheme 2 Timothy 2:15

3. Literary Form

a. What is the genre of the book?

b. Remember: 5-12-5-5-12 (Old Testament) // 4-1-21-1 (New Testament)

4. Atmosphere

- a What was it like to be in the writer's shoes?
- b. This is an exercise for the imagination, not just for the intellect.

Emphasized - Look for the amount of space used [ex: Paul's epistles], a stated purpose [John 20:30-31], order [Genesis 2:15; 3:17-24], and pivot moments [2 Samuel II-12; Acts 2]

> Repeated - Look for terms, phrases, clauses [Hebrews II], characters [Barnabas in Acts], incidents and circumstances [Judges 21:25], patterns (Isaac & Jesus), and the NT use of OT passages [Matthew 12:39-41].

B. When reading the Bible in general, look for things that are ...

Emphasized - Look for the amount of space used [ex: Paul's epistles], a stated purpose [John 20:30-31], order [Genesis 2:15; 3:17-24], and pivot moments [2 Samuel II-12; Acts 2] TRUE TO LIFE

Repeated - Look for terms, phrases, clauses [Hebrews II], characters [Barnabas in Acts], incidents and circumstances [Judges 21:25], patterns [Isaac & Jesus], and the NT use of OT passages [Maithew 12:39-41].

Related - Look for movement from general to specific [Genesis I], questions and answers [Matthew 26:40; Romans 6:1, 15], and cause and effect [Acts 8:1-4].

Alike (Comparisons) - Look for similes [Psalm 42:1; | Peter 2:2] and metaphors [John 3:3-7; 15:1].

Unlike (Contrasts) - Look for the use of the word "but" [Galatians 5:22-23], negative metaphors (cf. Luke 18:1-8), and irony (cf. Luke 8:43-48).

True to Life - What does the passage tell you about reality? What parts of it resonate with your experience?

Write next week's assignment below to help you remember it.

2. Context – What do the "neighbor passages" say? - Context is that which goes before and after a passage. - Much doctrinal error could be corrected by simply reading the surrounding verses. - Ask: "How does this verse relate to the biblical book in which it occurs?" Effective Bible Study Five Keys to Interpretation (Exegesis)

- · You need to know who is speaking.
- · You need to know to whom the passage is addressed.
- You need to know how the original recipients understood the instruction.
- Attempt to determine the circumstances under which a narrative was written.

3. Comparison – We're comparing Scripture with Scripture. - Remember: the Holy Spirit coordinated the entire message of the Bible. - Ex: "Belief" (John 2:23) - Ex: "Equip" (Eph. 4:11-12) - Ex: Moses Effective Bible Study **Timothy 2:15** Receils Explants Apoly it



5. Consultation – What tools can aid my study? - Consult extra-Biblical resources as secondary resources. - Concordance – An index to the Bible - Bible dictionaries – Information on subjects in the text - Bible handbooks – Like a one-volume encyclopedia - Atlases - Bible commentaries – Offer the insights of one who has deeply studied the text Effective Bible Study Tive Keys to Interpretation (Exegesis)

