

# Bible Study Skills:

*Learning to study Scripture inductively*



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# Inductive Bible Study

When we read and study our Bibles, it is vital to let the Bible speak for itself. This approach is inductive, examining the particulars in order to come to general conclusions about what we read. Unlike the deductive approach, which begins with assertions of truth and moves to the particulars that might express that truth, the inductive approach to Bible study requires that we examine the details presented before we come to any conclusions. Like a detective, we must uncover and understand the facts before we can use them. This simple, three step process of Uncovering, Understanding, and Using the facts makes up the process know as Inductive Bible Study.

# Observation

## 1. UNCOVER THE FACTS (OBSERVATION)

A. Interrogating The Text

B. Recording Answers In A List

C. Identifying Clues

# Interpretation

## 2. UNDERSTAND THE FACTS (INTERPRETATION)

### A. Determining The Meaning Of The Text

- 1) Identifying The Text Divisions
- 2) Identifying The Text Theme (Unifying Idea)
- 3) Asking Interpretive Questions Regarding The Text
- 4) Correlating other Scriptures to the text

### B. Determining The Purpose Of The Text

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1) Exhortation | 2) Instruction |
| 3) Reproof     | 4) Correction  |
| 5) Explanation | 6) Proof       |

### C. Examining The Development Of The Text

- Making a Structure Diagram

# Application

## 4. USING THE FACTS (APPLICATION)

### A. Asking Application Questions Regarding The Text

- Blessings to enjoy?
- Errors to avoid?
- Sins to confess and forsake?
- Thoughts to ponder?
- Promises to claim/Prayers to make?
- Lessons to learn?
- Actions to take?
- Commands to obey?
- Examples to follow?
- Scriptures to memorize?

### B. Recording Steps To Be Taken