



The Reason for Bible Study:

To receive God's eternal TRUTH and WISDOM and practically apply it in our every day lives.

The goal is not an accumulation of KNOWLEDGE, but a TRANSFORMED LIFE.

Romans 12:1-2

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Three Steps of Inductive Bible Study: (i.e. – letting the Bible speak)

- 1) OBSERVATION = What do I see?
- 2) INTERPRETATION = What does it mean?
- 3) APPLICATION = How should I respond?

The Bible has:

One INTERPRETATION = what does it mean?

Multiple APPLICATION = what does it mean for me? How should I respond?

Judges 21:25

Proverbs 29:18

How can we understand the Bible?

HERMENEUTICS: The principles people use to understand what something means, to comprehend what a message is meant to communicate.

Consider:

- AUTHORIAL Intent

● **Proper Context:**

- 1) BIBLICAL
- 2) TESTAMENT
- 3) BOOK
- 4) TEXTUAL

Some Good Questions to Ask:

- Does my understanding contradict other Scripture?*
- Does this apply to me directly or indirectly?*
- Who's the author?*
- What was his purpose for writing?*
- What were the circumstances of the people he was writing to?*
- Am I using the proper "unit of thought"?*

● **The distance between you and original audience:**

- 1) THEOLOGICAL Distance (i.e. – Old Testament vs. New Testament; pre-Acts 2 or post-Acts 2)
- 2) Distance of TIME
- 3) CULTURAL Distance
- 4) GEOGRAPHICAL Distance
- 5) Distance of LANGUAGE

An example: Read *Luke 5:27-32* and record your:

OBSERVATIONS:
(What do I see?)

QUESTIONS:

¹Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. ²But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. ³He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers. - **Psalm 1:1-3**

