

Home Group – Inductive Bible Study #2

Phase 1 – OBSERVATION (part 2)

Last time we focused on trying to read the Bible passage objectively, looking for facts and asking lots of questions – like a detective investigates a crime scene. Later we will look at INTERPRETATION & APPLICATION.

STEP 1 – Pray! Read **Luke 24:45** and ask the Lord to do the same for us.

STEP 2 – Read the passage (2 Timothy 1:1-11 NIV) on the provided paper two times.

STEP 3 – Does the text answer any of the questions from the last study?

STEP 4 – Look for/Mark key words and phrases

- Color-coordinate all the pronouns in this passage with squares
(I, me, my, you, your, we, our)
- Ask – Why is it important in this passage to distinguish the pronouns?
- Now color-coordinate every proper name – circle each one with one color
- Take a second sheet of the 2 Timothy text now. With one color, circle what you *think* the key words and themes might be.
 - **KEY WORDS** =
 - A word or phrase the author uses repeatedly in a significant way,
 - Vital word that can't be taken out
 - Noun, description or action verb
 - Vital word conveying the author's message

E.g. – The book of Philippians: the word “joy” occurs 16 times

E.g. – The Gospel of Luke: The Holy Spirit is mentioned 12 times

E.g. – The book of Acts: The Holy Spirit is mentioned 57 times

E.g. – Romans 2 – the word “law” and “circumcision” together = 21 times

STEP 5 – List what you learned about each word

Make a list on a separate sheet of paper, heading it with a key word.

E.g. in our passage = “God”

1. made Paul an apostle by his will (vs. 1)
2. gives grace, mercy and peace (vs. 2)
3. is the Father (vs. 2)
4. is thanked and served (vs. 3)
5. gives gifts (vs. 6)
6. doesn't give a spirit of timidity (vs. 7)
7. gives spirit of power, love, and self discipline (vs. 7)
8. gives power for suffering (vs. 8)
9. saved us (vs.9)

10. called us

(vs. 9)

STEP 6 – Look for *contrasts* in the writing

A contrast is an evaluation of things that are different or opposite in the context of the passage. Many times, contrast is noted by the word “but”

- 2 Timothy 1:7 - “For God did not give us a spirit of timidity. BUT a spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline.”
- Mark the contrast by writing the word “*contrast*” on the side margin and by marking it with 2 lines as shown above in verse 7.
- Find two more contrasts in this passage (hint: “night and day” in vs.3 is not a contrast in the context of Paul’s letter)
- Why can it be helpful to notice obvious contrasts in the Bible?

STEP 7 – Write down a possible theme of the passage

If you had to summarize the main point of Paul’s words so far, what might it be?

Don’t worry- we are only speculating now about the theme. And, there may be more than one main theme.