

Bible Study Basics Worksheet

Passage: II Timothy 3:14-17



before you begin

DAY 1 – OBSERVATION is the first step in Bible study

****BACKGROUND INFO:** Use a study Bible, commentary, or online site such as Blue Letter Bible (blb.org) to help you answer the following questions. Focus on these background questions. Save the commentary reading of the passage itself for later. *Do this background info during the first week of your study of a book. For subsequent chapters, begin at letter A below.*

- Who wrote this book? **Paul- was Saul (a persecutor of believers before he met Jesus)**
- When was it written? **About 67 AD – shortly before Paul’s martyrdom; this is the time of Nero in the Roman Empire**
- To whom was it written? **Timothy (Paul’s son in the faith) his mom & grandma were believers**
- Cultural setting? **In Lystra, Paul recruited Timothy as co-worker. Tim is in Ephesus (I Tim 1:3-4)**
- Other helpful info? **At the time of II Tim. Paul is in a Roman prison. He “passes the torch” of ministry to Timothy. Book is full of admonitions.**

A. Read your passage. Divide the passage assignment into sections. (Usually your Bible will do this for you by paragraphs.) On another sheet of paper, write out 2 or 3 observations for each section. **Skip this for such a short passage.**

B. If you have access to a printer, copy and print out the passage. (I use a 12 font with wide margins and double or 2.5 spacing.) This gives room to write observations and comments.

DAY 2 – OBSERVATION

A. Read through the entire passage. Use the 5 W’s + H to generate questions about what you are reading.

- WHO: key people **Who are the main characters are in this passage? (Paul & Timothy) What is their relationship? (Timothy is Paul’s son in the faith) In verse 14, who are the people who taught Timothy? (his mom and grandma as well as Paul himself)**

- **WHAT:** key words, phrases, events, etc. What important statements does Paul make about Scripture? (*It is inspired by God and profitable for the believer. It can lead to salvation in Jesus, and it shapes a believer for the tasks God has for him.*) What is the relationship of the Bible to salvation? (*It gives you wisdom that leads to salvation*) What are the sacred writings that Timothy was familiar with? (*The Old Testament*) What is the purpose of Scripture? (*So the man of God may be equipped for every good work*)
- **WHEN/WHERE:** key dates, times, places, etc. When in Paul's life is this being written? (*near the end*) Where is he? (*prison*) When is this in Timothy's life? (*He's a young man*) Where is he? (*Ephesus*)
- **WHY/HOW:** anything that helps you understand the purpose behind the teaching of the text. Why is Paul telling Timothy this? (*I think because Paul realizes he is near the end of his life*) How does this apply to Timothy's ministry? (*I think because Timothy will need this in the wicked times to come—look at beginning of Chapter 3*) How is Scripture useful or profitable? (*It can lead to salvation through faith in Jesus, it can teach, rebuke, correct and train so we are equipped for every good work*) How does Scripture make people wise unto salvation? (*It shows us our need of a Savior*)

*** I went back and answered my questions (*in Italics*) after I finished the study of this passage. When I first went through the lesson, I just wrote the questions.***



B. What do you see in this passage? What is it saying? (repeated words or ideas, important concepts, lists) **Read it again. What stands out to you this time?** (Try reading it in a different version. Does that shed any new light?) *Scripture makes you wise unto salvation in Jesus.*

ALL Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for the believer.

God uses Scripture to equip us for good work. (Ephesians 2:10)

Scripture carries the authority of God.

The fact that the Bible is profitable for teaching implies that it is necessary to study it.

God chose to communicate truth in written form



C. Did these verses raise any questions as you read? (What don't I understand here, word meaning, idea questions) Stop, pray, ask, do your best, & then go to other sources (dictionaries, commentaries, study Bibles) **What are the definitions of the words:**

Teaching: Shows us what is right; God's Word is the standard of truth

Reproof: to convince or expose; Bible has the power to expose our sin & convince us we are wrong

Correction: tells us how to get right with God; restores us to the proper path

Training in Righteousness: once back on the path, the Bible teaches us how to stay there and make further progress or spiritual growth

What does it mean that the man of God maybe **adequate**?: fitted, complete "When we come to the Bible and let God speak to us it changes us—it makes us complete and transforms us." –David Guzik (Blue Letter Bible)

DAY 3 –OBSERVATION



A. What attributes of God are evident? (What do these verses reveal about God's character? Explain why you chose that attribute.)

Wisdom – God knows my need for teaching, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness

Faithful – God cares for me, forgives me, and desires to grow me to be like His Son. His Word helps me with that.

Goodness – All of God's ways are right. He offers us hope in how to live according to His Word


Guide – God shows us HOW to live and even how to get back on track when we've sinned

Patient – God could just wipe us out because of our rebellion and sin, but because He loves us and is patient with us, He uses Scripture to show us how to get right

Gracious – He gives good to me that I don't deserve. How wonderful that His Word shows me where I am out of line and how to be restored to walking with Him!

B. Using your printed copy of the passage, **NOW** is the time to consult trusted commentaries, study Bible notes or online helps to give you more insight into the passage. Mark on your passage printout the ideas you want to remember or thoughts that help you comprehend the meaning of the passage better. Be sure to attribute where those comments come from.


DAY 4 – INTERPRETATION is the second step in Bible study

- A.**  **What is the point of this passage?** (purpose—Why would God want me to know what’s in this passage I just read?)

God's Word is important for the believer and his walk with God.

This passage teaches believers how to live in a corrupt world.


Evil men are going to get worse—today’s culture sure bears that out! They will deceive more and more. “The only way a believer will be able to tell the true from the false is by knowing the Word of God.” –Warren Wiersbe [Bible Exposition Commentary](#) p.251

- B.**  **How does this passage fit into the big picture of God’s story in the Bible?** (Four major themes of the Bible are Creation, the Fall, Redemption, and Restoration. How does this passage fit into those themes? Does this passage remind you of another place in Scripture with the same message?) *The Fall for sure. It’s impact on humans and the fact that men will get more and more evil as time goes by shows our great need for God’s Word that leads us to Christ for salvation and then shows us how to live. The Scripture can teach, rebuke, correct, and train us. Of course, it points us to Jesus, our Redeemer and that is the Redemption story.*

Romans 15:4 “For whatever was written in earlier times, was written for our instruction, so that through perserance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.”

DAY 5 – APPLICATION is the final step

Prayerfully reread the passage before attempting this last question.

- A.**  **Personal application: How should this passage change me?** (Is God teaching me something about Himself, showing me an aspect of His character that should cause me to worship or thank Him, correcting a wrong thinking or behavior, or preparing me to live more effectively for Him? What would it look like if I applied the truths in this passage?)

God is showing me that in His Word, I first see my desperate need for a redeemer. It is not the Scriptures that save, but Jesus who has the power to save. For me, I need to be in the Word, so the Word can be in me. I need to ponder it, chew on it, and let it change my thinking. All the work that God’s Word can do in my life is to equip me to live and work for Him. Lord God, please grow my desire to faithfully study your Word.