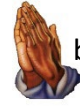


# Bible Study Basics Worksheet

Passage: \_\_\_\_\_



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?
- When was it written?
- To whom was it written?
- Cultural setting?
- Other helpful info?

**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.

**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

- WHAT: key words, phrases, events, etc.
  
- WHEN/WHERE: key dates, times, places, etc.
  
- WHY/HOW: anything that helps you understand the purpose behind the teaching of the text.



**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?)



**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)


### 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.)

**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?)

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?)

**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?)