

**3 Steps for Good Bible Study**  
*Discovering God's Message in God's Word*  
Handout

**OBSERVATION**

Answers the question: *What does the passage / text say?*

Genre / form; Grammatical; Word usage; Repetition; Persons; Places; Timing; etc.

**INTERPRETATION**

Answers the question: *What does the passage / text mean?*

Original Author / Recipients; context; Words, Structure, Irregularities / Difficulties; Themes; etc.  
(see message and/or notes from 7/13/25)

**APPLICATION** (Implication of the passage)

Answers the question: *How should I respond to this passage / text?*

What does this teach me about God? ..Jesus Christ? ..the Holy Spirit?  
What does this teach me about man? ..the church? ..sin? ..salvation? ..etc.  
Is there an action or response I need to make?  
    (prayer, praise, confession, reconciliation, reaching out, etc.)  
How should I think / feel / act differently?  
Is there a promise for me to claim?  
Is there an example for me to follow?  
Is there something for me to avoid?  
Is there a command for me to obey?

**RESOURCES**

On Line Resources: Blue Letter Bible (free); Accordance Bible software; Logos Bible software  
Study Bibles (ESV; NIV)  
Bible translations (i.e. ESV; NASB; NIV; KJV; NKJV; RSV; NRSV)  
Bible paraphrases (i.e. The Message; The Living Bible; The Good News Bible)  
Concordances (Strong's; Young's; NASB; NIV)  
Cross references (Reference Bibles; Treasury of Scripture Knowledge)  
Lexicons / Word Studies / Expository Dictionaries  
Bible Dictionary (Zondervan; New Bible Dictionary - Tyndale)  
Bible Encyclopedia (Zondervan; International Standard; Eerdmans'- 1 Vol.)  
Bible survey / introduction / handbook  
Bible Commentaries