



## **Senior High-How to Study the Bible**

Use the links and instructions below to prepare for discussion on April 15

Get access to RightNow Media through First Baptist  
<https://accounts.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/FBCV>

Watch Session 3 & 4 of "How To Read the Bible" with Michael DeFazio

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/337996>

### **(3) Pay attention to the details. (Investigation)**

- Like it or not, the Bible must be interpreted...
- We're taking common sense and applying it to Scripture.
- Remember our goal – to hear God by understanding the text.
- Good Bible study begins by reading the text closely with attention to detail.

### **\*\* Read Hebrews 9**

**At this early investigation stage you are basically playing detective:**

- **Investigate what the words mean... use Hebrews 9**
  - How do various English translations of the Bible differ?
  - Where are the verbs and what are they doing?
  - Any metaphors or figurative language?
- **Investigate how the words relate to one another**
  - Are any comparisons or contrasts being made?
  - How does the logic or plot move forward?
  - Any connectors like "if... then..." or "therefore..." or "because..."?

**Basically you do two things:**

- **Ask questions**
- **Make observations**

### **\*\* What are your questions and observations based on Hebrews 9?**

**--- Continue to the back for Session 4**

## **(4) Discern the author's flow of thought. (Literary Context)**

### **\*\* Read Hebrews 9**

#### **Without a context, words are meaningless.**

- **Discern the author's flow of thought.**
  - In interpreting texts, this is called "literary context."
  - Literary context is the words and paragraphs surrounding our text.
- **This is the single most important aspect of sound interpretation.**
  - Psalm 14.1 – "There is no God"
  - Ephesians 4.24 "Put on the new man"
  - Matthew 18.20 – "Where two or three are gathered, there I am with them."
  - Philippians 4.13 – "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength."
  - Philippians 2.12 – "work out your salvation with fear and trembling"

#### **So let's get practical – what are you supposed to do?**

##### **\*\* Use Hebrews 9 to complete the following:**

- **When studying individual verses, read the surrounding verses and ask how the context clarifies what your verse means.**
- **When reading paragraphs or larger sections, ask how they relate to what came before and after.**
  1. Divide the text into sections (typically paragraphs or events)
  2. Summarize each section as best you can
  3. Look for connections