

Bible Study One Sheet

Use this “One Sheet” as your guide to building a productive Bible Study session that will help you be accurate and find new & exciting truths in God’s Word. This One Sheet can be used for studying individual phrases, verses, sections, chapters and even full books of the Bible. Enjoy!

STEP 1: DETERMINE THE CONTEXT

Paint the picture of what’s happening

Start by reading the previous 10 verses and the following 10 verses from your text and answer these 5 questions:

1. Who’s the one talking?
2. Who’s the recipient?
3. What are 3 things that have happened to get to this point? (or what’s been talked about so far?)
4. What’s 1 thing that is about to happen next? (or to be talked about next?)
5. If you could package the text into a single theme, what would it be?

STEP 2: OBSERVE THE TEXT

Play “I spy” with the biblical text — what do you see?

Read the text several times and then make 10-15 quick observations and write them down:

1. Are there any repeated words?
2. Are there any unique words?
3. What are the verbs?
4. What are the nouns?
5. What are the adjectives?
6. What are the prepositions?

STEP 3: OUTLINE THE TEXT

Break it up step by step — imagine you’re guiding someone across stepping stones in a river.

What are the 3 to 5 main stepping stones of the text based on your observations?

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STEP 4: INTERPRET THE TEXT

There is only ever ONE interpretation — what does it mean?

You're on the hunt for what the author means in what he says as understood by his original audience.

1. Define keywords
2. Draw out the meaning of key phrases (exegesis)
3. Use Greek grammatical insights

STEP 5: CORRELATE THE TEXT

Support the interpretation with other Scripture, illustrations, and logic

1. What other verses talk about the same thing?
2. Does the text remind you of a story in your life?
3. Does the text describe a clear logic or equation to explain?
4. What is the modern counterpart to what is historically being described?

STEP 6: APPLY THE TEXT

Now that's you've drawn out it's meaning, how can it change your life?

NEVER ask this question before you interpret. Interpretation must always come before application.

1. Who does this text apply to? (men, women, husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, youth, adults?)
 2. How is the text intended to be applied?
 3. Where is the text intended to be applied?
 4. When is the text intended to be applied?
 5. What is the best way to apply the text?
 6. Why should the text be applied?
 7. What's at stake if the text is not applied?
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