

How to Enjoy Your Bible

Seminar 3

Intermediate Interpretation

You have collected questions, words, sentences, and ideas for further study.

Depending on what it is you are going to target to study will lead you into your next step.

Passage studies

Word studies

Whole Book/Letter studies

Topical studies

Class studies

To properly Understand a text, you must take an exegetical approach.

BIG TRAP: Eisegesis vs Exegesis

READ 2 Chron 27:1-2 (Follow worksheet)

A method is what I call the UIA method of studying:

1. Understand – (exegesis over eisegesis – the most difficult to shed!)

Context is King! (READ 2 Kgs 2:9-12 and assumptions then READ Vv15-18)

History

Names, dates, places

Culture (anthropological and sociological)

Word study (etymology)

Maps

Literary genres: parables, historical info, instructional, figures of speech –

euphemisms, idioms, metaphors, analogies

Numerology (666) Greek and Hebrew alphabet

Topics or themes – salvation, heaven, etc.

Tools: Close Reading – DOS – dictionary – concordance – commentary – maps

2. Interpret – (hermeneutics)

Some passages you might not want to take literally:

Stone a rebellious son – Deut 21:18-21

Women are saved through childbearing – 1 Tim 2:15

Sell everything you own and give it to the church – Acts 2:45

Baptism saves you – 1 Peter 3:21

Or being baptized on behalf of the dead – 1 Cor 15:29

Challenges: READ Mt 1:16 and then Lk 3:23 and tell me who Joseph's father is? Regal line vs Legal line

There are some gruesome stories in the Bible – Gen 19 Lot offering his virgin daughters to the raging mob to protect two strangers, and Judges 19 extremely offensive!!

Tools: Prayer, questions to trusted person, commentaries

3. Application – (Praxis)

OK, so now what do I do with this study?

- a. Journal it for future study
- b. Teach a class on what you have discovered – you really learn a topic when you teach it!

ACTIVITY: Let's all turn to Luke 16:19-31

READ and use DOS.

1. Focus study on **Names and Places:** Lazarus, rich man, Abraham, hades, paradise, Abraham's side or bosom, Moses
2. Focus study on **topics or themes:** soul and carried by angels, rich man buried, in hades and paradise do we have fingers, eyes, and tongues, is there water available, condemned for being rich, was Abraham in charge
3. Focus on **word study:** hades, paradise, soul, angels, fire eternal
4. Focus on **culture:** what's going on here and how might it have been understood in the first century Palestine?
5. Focus on **literary genre:** a story, a parable. Literal
6. Focus on **context** – how does this parable fit in with the rest of the passage?

Next week: Advanced Interpretation – pulling it all together – I will demonstrate.

Homework: Read Ephesians Chapter 1 and prepare to share.