

STEP #1: OBSERVE THEIR HOME

What Do I See?

Two Revolutionary Disciplines for Reading the Bible...

- Learn to _____.
- Learn to _____.

LEARNING TO LISTEN . . .

- Listen _____.
 - ▶ Bible study is not a mindless activity.
- Listen thoroughly.
 - ▶ If we want to understand the Bible, we've got to bombard it with questions.
 - ▶ _____?
 - Wrote it?
 - Originally read it?
 - Are the main characters?
 - ▶ _____?
 - Is happening in the text?
 - Is wrong with the picture?
 - Is the author saying?
 - ▶ _____?
 - Is the writer?
 - Are the original readers?
 - Is the text taking place?
 - ▶ _____?
 - Was it written?
 - Did the events take place?
 - ▶ _____?
 - Is the author writing this?
 - Is this included in Scripture?
 - Did the events happen the way they did?
 - Did the author say what he said?
- Listen repeatedly.
 - ▶ Read the text over and over and over and over... you get the point!
- Listen _____.
 - ▶ Be patient with the text.
 - ▶ Be patient with yourself.
- Listen _____.
 - ▶ See the sights, smell the smells, and experience the emotions.

- Listen meditatively.
 - ▶ Take time to _____.
 - ▶ Dietrich Bonhoeffer: “Just as you do not analyze the words of someone you love, but accept them as they are said to you, accept the word of Scripture and ponder it in your heart, as Mary did. That is all. That is meditation.”

*“Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”
(Joshua 1:8, NIV)*

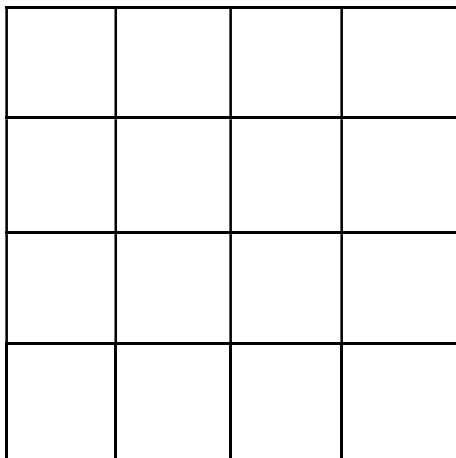
*“Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.”
(Psalm 1:1-2, NIV)*

“Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long.” (Psalm 119:97, NIV)

- Listen _____.
- ▶ We want our lives transformed by the heart of God through His Word!

LEARNING TO LOOK . . .

- The art of Bible reading is _____.
- How many squares do you see below?



- Look for what the Word _____.
- ▶ Verbs
 - How does the author depict the action of the text?
 - Is the verb past, _____, or future?

*“In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will,”
(Ephesians 1:11, NIV)*

- Is the verb _____?

*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”
(Matthew 28:19, NIV)*

- Is the verb active or _____?

*“The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you. “I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”
(Genesis 12:1-3, NIV)*

“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.” (Ephesians 5:18, NIV)

*“ Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.”
(Colossians 3:1, NIV)*

▶ _____

- Is the author devoting concentrated attention to a certain theme, character, event, etc.?
- Genesis 1-11, 12-50.
- Matthew
 - b Of 1,062 verses, at least _____ of them (1/3 of the book) give us teachings from Jesus.
- Ephesians
 - b 1-3: Explanation of Salvation.
 - b 4-6: Application of Salvation.

▶ _____ Statement

- Does the author describe why he says something or why something happens?
- Look for that, in order that, so that, to, or for.

“See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the Lord my God commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it.

Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, ‘Surely this great nation

is a wise and understanding people.’” (Deuteronomy 4:5-6, NIV)

“I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.” (Psalm 119:11, NIV)

““For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16, NIV)

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit— fruit that will last. Pen the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.”

(John 15:16, NIV)

“Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. “

(John 20:30-31, NIV)

▶ Order

- Is the author giving strategic importance to something by putting it in a certain order?

Matthew 10:2-4	Mark 3:13-19	Luke 6:12-16	Acts 1:12-14
Simon Peter	Simon Peter	Simon Peter	Peter
Andrew	James	Andrew	John
James	John	James	James
John	Andrew	John	Andrew
Philip	Philip	Philip	Philip
Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Thomas
Thomas	Matthew	Matthew	Bartholomew
Matthew	Thomas	Thomas	Matthew
James/Alphaeus	James/Alphaeus	James	James/Alphaeus
Thaddeus	Thaddeus	Simon the Zealot	Simon the Zealot
Simon the Zealot	Simon the Zealot	Judas/James	Judas/James
Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	(Matthias)

▶ Exaggeration

- Does the author exaggerate something for intentional _____ or emphasis?

"My soul is consumed with longing for your laws at all times." (Psalm 119:20, NIV)

"I robbed other churches by receiving support from them so as to serve you." (2 Corinthians 11:8, NIV)

"You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel." (Matthew 23:24, NIV)

- Look for what the Word _____.
 - ▶ Does the author intentionally repeat anything in the text?
 - ▶ Terms, phrases, and clauses
 - Psalm 136 – His love endures forever!
 - Matthew 5:34-6:34 – God is our Father!