

## Teaching Others

### General Principles

As you begin the process of teaching others to study the Bible, it is important to have a few guiding principles in mind or else you might lose interest from your disciples, or worse yet, unintentionally discourage their efforts.

1. Go slow
2. One idea/process at a time
3. Model it for them
4. Practice it together with them
5. Ask them to model it
6. Encourage and Enjoy

### Specific Steps For Each Phase Of Bible Study

#### Reading

It is vital to note that this process of more in-depth Bible study is built on a lifestyle and commitment to Bible reading as covered in Literacy Course (LIT102). We strongly urge that you teach, model, and disciple your friends in this step prior to engaging in this content.

#### Observation

Due to the importance of good observation in the Bible study process, it is important to explain, model, and provide ample time for people to improve in their observation skills. If you are teaching these principle to larger groups, consider breaking into smaller groups to teach these steps. The more practically that you can model and interact through these steps, the better.

1. Pray for patience and awareness of others as they learn this phase.
2. Read the entire section, two times (ESV & NLT), from start to finish, uninterrupted.
3. Listen to an audio recording of the passage.
4. Note the actors (Who is doing the action and who is receiving it?) and the actions (What is being done?). Encourage each individual to develop a system of noting these things that can be consistently used throughout their study of the Bible.
5. Write down any questions and general observations.
6. Write a one sentence summary.

7. Provide a context to share observations and questions.

### **Interpretation**

This is the specific part of Bible study that intimidates most people. With that in mind, we suggest a strategy that will slowly introduce your friends to the concepts within it. The steps listed below are not be understood as principles that need to be entirely covered in one sitting. They should be drawn over a number of gatherings, giving plenty of time for your friends to observe, ask questions, and try it themselves. Be patient, very encouraging, and have fun during this phase. Remember that we are not only trying to inform them of how to do this, but modeling the joy and reward of Bible study.

1. Pray for clarity of mind, both for yourself to communicate these concepts, and for your friends as they learn them.
2. Explain the process of interpreting from a theoretical standpoint. Do not call it “outlining”. Explain that you are simply taking a closer look at what the author wrote by slowing down and considering each statement in relationship to the statements around it.
3. For the sake of ease and confidence building, just break up the statements using the commas that already exist in the text. No need to initially go any deeper than that.
4. Model it yourself as they watch.
5. Do it together, asking their input as you work through each statement.
6. Ask one of them to take your place and lead through the process.
7. Ask each individual to bring their own conclusions.
8. Bring back their questions from the Observation stage and see if any of them have been answered or if their is new perspective that helps.

### **Consideration**

As with all the other phases, we suggest that you not press into life actions/application too soon without proper observation and interpretation being done first. Deeply and personally considering the learned truths is vital if there is to be ultimate life change.

1. Pray for insight into other’s thinking, helping them to delve more deeply into their thinking and lifestyle.
2. Ask you're friends to summarize their conclusions about the passage.
3. Explain the crucial necessity of deeply and personally considering the new truths that they are learning. (Moving from concepts to convictions, thinking to character)
4. Prepare critical questions to prompt more personal interaction with the truths learned.
5. Model it by taking ample time to pray together about the learned truths, specifically asking God to expose areas of your thinking and lifestyle that are not consistent with it.
6. Give them the opportunity, in time, to lead the group discussion of this phase.

### **Application**

Beginning to see lives changed through study and consideration of the Bible is our ultimate aim. In reality,

this can take much more time than we would like to give. We must

1. Pray for patience and discernment in leading others into this phase.
2. Ask your friends which truths have been the most convicting during your study.
3. Ask your friends if they have noticed God's prompting to either address areas in their life that are inconsistent with, or step out by faith new areas of lifestyle, that are consistent with the truths that have been learned.
4. Discuss how those steps might be taken to pursue a lifestyle that is more consistent with the truths that have been learned.
5. Pray together about those steps. Pray for wisdom to walk in the truth, and boldness when the walking might be challenging.
6. Plan follow-up discussions to check on progress in the given areas that were discussed.