

## From Theory to Reality

- **Review your presuppositions**
- **Understand the difference between “exegesis” and “contextualization”.**
- **Remember your goal**
- **Use both inductive and deductive methods**
  - Inductive = what you see in the passage: moving from facts to conclusions
  - Deductive = From conclusions to proof: Using secondary sources.

## Procedure

1. Read passage and determine genre.
  - A. Apply the rules
  - B. Identify Epistle, Gospel, Prophetic literature, Historical literature, Poetry, Wisdom genres.
  - C. Identify any literary devices within the passage: metaphors, similes, proverbs, parables, allegories, types, prophesy.
2. Read the passage until you can get a “theme statement” or the big idea.
  - A. Subject and Compliment.
3. Establish the historical context.
  - A. When did the author write?
  - B. What was going on in his world at that time?
  - C. What were the general historical circumstances?
  - D. What was the general disposition of the audience?
  - E. What was the purpose of the author writing at this time?

4. Establish the literary context.
  - A. What do the neighboring verses say in connection with the passage?
    1. Identify connecting words between sentences and phrases and consider how they relate to the overall thought process.
    2. Identify the author's perspective.
    3. Identify who this passage is intended for: specific or general.
  - B. Outline the passage (If more than a few verses).
  - C. How does this passage relate to the chapter? Book? Bible?
5. Lexical-Syntactical
  - A. Identify key words and determine meaning.
  - B. Do a word study of key words.
    1. Original language meaning.
    2. Use of words in other places in Scripture.
    3. Put the words in today's language.
6. Theological analysis
  - A. How did this passage increase your knowledge about God?
  - B. What does this passage say about God?
  - C. What did the people of that time learn about God from this passage?  
What are we to glean from it as well?
7. Conclusions
  - A. What should the 'take aways' be from this passage to us?

## **Psalm 23**

1. Genre
2. Theme Statement: The “Big” Idea
3. Historical Context
4. Literary Context
5. Lexical Syntactical
6. Theological Analysis

## **Philippians 1:12-18**

1. Genre
2. Theme Statement: The “Big” Idea
3. Historical Context
4. Literary Context
5. Lexical Syntactical
6. Theological Analysis

## **Romans 12:1-8**

1. Genre
2. Theme Statement: The “Big” Idea
3. Historical Context
4. Literary Context
5. Lexical Syntactical
6. Theological Analysis

## **Outlines (large passages)**

- I. Break down passage into main paragraphs—individual complete thoughts.
- II. Group paragraphs into sections (major themes—if multiple)
- III. Group sections to more concise section(s).
- IV. Develop outline by reversing the above.