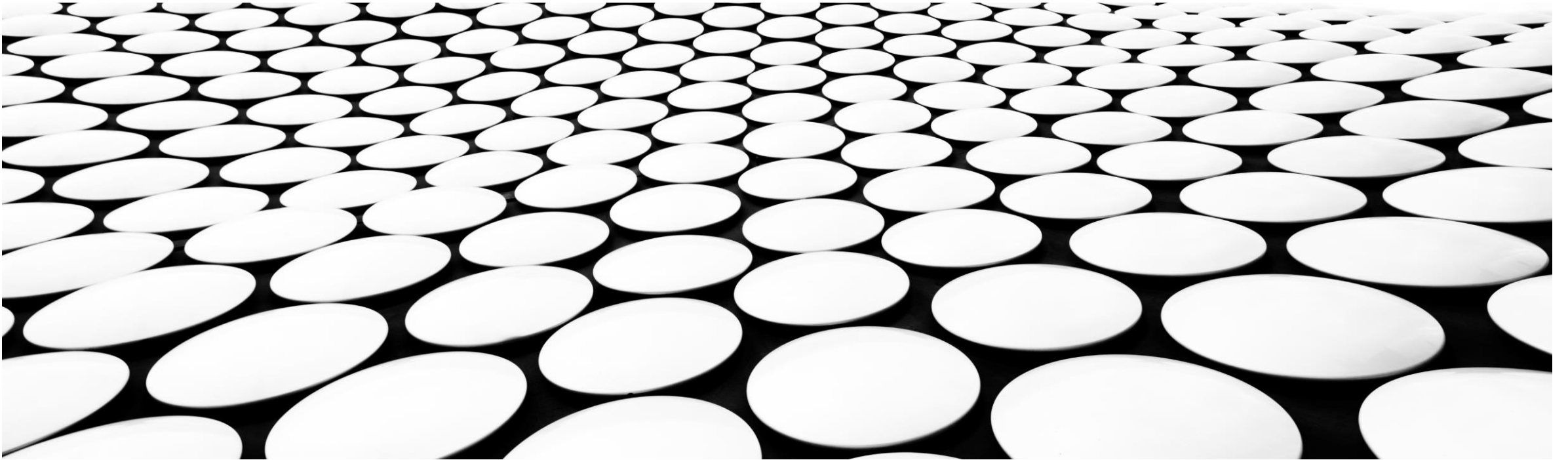

FOUNDATION CLASS: THE BASICS

HEBREWS 6:1-2





PASSAGE: HEBREWS 6:1-2

Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.



OUTLINE

- Context
- General Points
- Repentance from Dead Works
- Faith Towards God
- Doctrine of Baptisms
- Laying on of Hands
- Eternal Judgement
- Overall Structure
- Homework

GENERAL POINTS

- Acts 17:11
- Do not be afraid to study the Bible
- Every answer you need can be found in the Bible
- There are no stupid questions here



CONTEXT

- Hebrews is written to the church at Jerusalem
- Wanted to go back to the Levitical system
- Main issue is spiritual immaturity
- The basic foundational doctrines





REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

- What are dead works?
- Grace vs. Works
 - Ephesians 2:8-9
 - James 2:14-26
- Three tenses of Salvation
 - Justification
 - Sanctification
 - Glorification

FAITH TOWARDS GOD

- Turning towards God and from idols are interlinked
- What is faith?
 - Active not passive
 - Action taken from belief
 - Obedience despite the consequences
- Types of faith
 - Unsaving Faith
 - Vain Faith: Faith in the wrong doctrine (1 Corinthians 15:14-17)
 - Dead Faith: Faith in the right doctrine, without a personal belief in Christ (James 2:18-20)
 - Saving Faith
 - Little faith: Mixed faith and unbelief (Matthew 14:31)
 - Weak Faith: Legalistic expression of faith (Romans 14:1)
 - Strong Faith: Faith in God's Promises (Romans 4:20)

DOCTRINE OF BAPTISMS

- Baptisms is plural
 - Para: with you
 - En: in you
 - Epi: “Upon”
- Water Baptism
 - Obedience to Jesus (Matthew 28:19-20)
 - Outward representation of a spiritual change
 - Both immersion and sprinkling seem to have been used in Acts



LAYING ON OF HANDS

- Old testament
 - Levitical System as identification with animal sacrifices
 - Commission for public office
- New Testament
 - Appointment to ministry and/or being sent out
 - Used with healing gifts
- Today?



RESURRECTION

- Central to everything (1 Corinthians 15:12-17)
- Abraham believed in the resurrection (Hebrews 11:17-19)
- A physical, bodily Resurrection (Job 19:25-27; 1 Corinthians 15:35-41)
- Form of the new body
 - Incapable of sin
 - Like a tree to a seed
 - Fitted for Eternity
- Resurrection of the just
 - Not a single event
- Resurrection of the unjust
 - Daniel 12:1-3
 - Revelation 20:11-15

ETERNAL JUDGEMENT

- You cannot understand the love, mercy and grace of God unless you understand His justice
- God is just in his judgement (Genesis 18:23)
- Nature of eternal punishment
 - Eternal and conscious (Isaiah 66:24)
 - Understanding of where they are, why, and that there was an alternative (Luke 16:24-31)
 - People to not repent in eternal punishment
 - Eternal punishment in a living, physical body
- Everyone will be judged by their works
 - The works of the unjust are judged (Revelation 20:12)
 - The just are judged by their works (2 Corinthians 5:9-10)
- You cannot lose your Justification, but you can lose rewards



OVERALL STRUCTURE

- First: Repentance
- Second: Baptism
- Third: Calling to ministry
- Fourth: Eternal Judgement

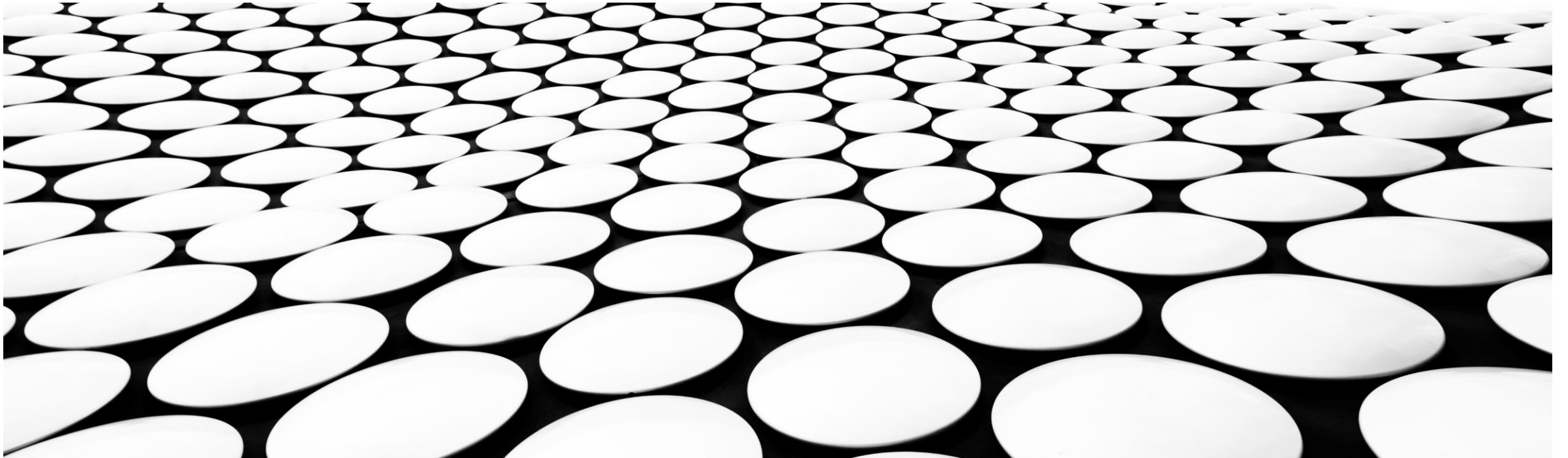
HOMEWORK

- Start to Follow, p. 1-12
 - Answer questions
 - Pray and meditate on this throughout the week
 - Be ready for next week
- Extra Credit
 - Given the context of Hebrews 6:1-2, what is going on in v. 4-6?



START TO FOLLOW: THE BIBLE

CHAPTER 1



OUTLINE

- Introduction
- God's Word
- Reflection
- Homework



INTRODUCTION

- The Bible
 - Study it
 - Use it
 - Live it
- Hebrews 4:12



GOD'S WORD

- God's Word is...
 - Pure
 - Proven
 - True
 - Eternal
- Benefit of God's Word
 - Guide for a prosperous life
 - Keeps us from sinning
 - Guiding light
 - Grants wisdom
 - Profitable
- Promises of God's Word
 - Understanding to the diligent
 - God will grant understanding
 - Eternal Life
 - Peace

REFLECTION

- If the Bible is our “instrument panel” then how do we learn to use it?
- Do we have to practice using it?
 - When did you do good?
 - When did you do bad?
 - What can you learn from those experiences?
- Why is it so easy to use everything except our “instrument panel”?



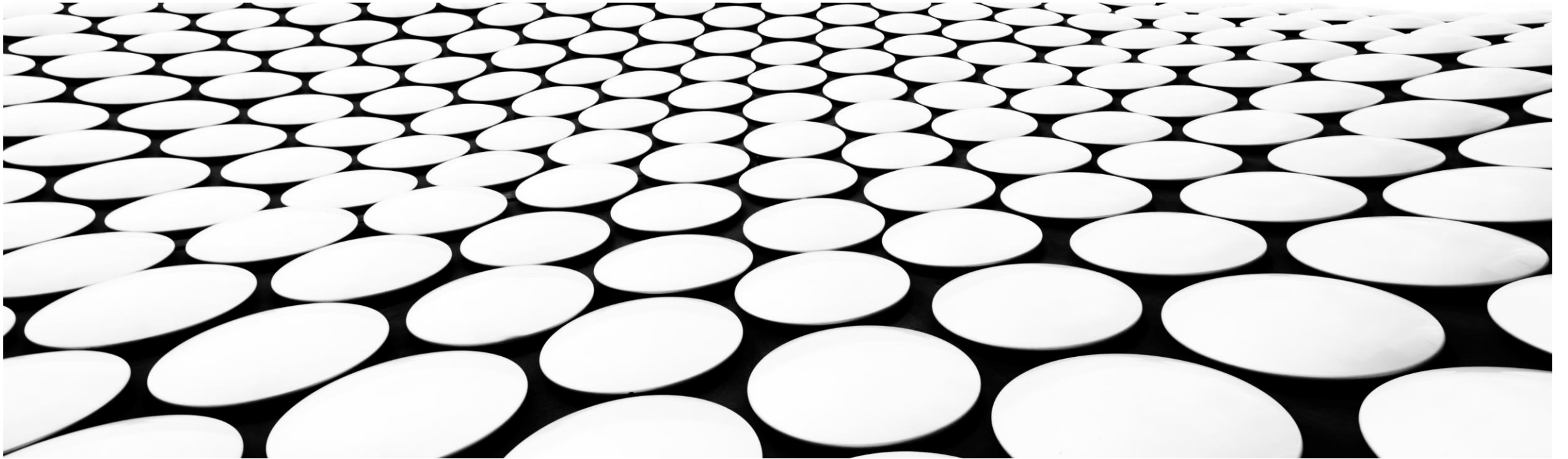
HOMEWORK

- Chapter 2
 - Answer questions
 - Pray and meditate on this throughout the week
 - Be ready for next week
- Extra Credit
 - How can you determine if a church is teaching the Word of God or not?
 - Is there a difference between teaching the Bible and teaching about the Bible?



START TO FOLLOW: CHURCH

CHAPTER 2



OUTLINE

- Reasons to be in Church
- The Thriving Church
- Our Place in the Church
- Homework





REASONS TO BE IN CHURCH

- Church will help you...
 - Preach the Word
 - For ministry
- Importance of fellowship
 - Exhort one another
 - Encouragement
- Your place in the Church
 - Gifted by God
 - Part of the same body

THE THRIVING CHURCH

- Worshipping
 - Genuine
 - To God, For God, and by God
- Evangelizing
 - Explosive growth
 - Growth by God
- Learning
 - Teach the whole Word of God
 - Make disciples
- Loving
 - Love as God loves
 - True sign of His disciples

OUR PLACE IN THE CHURCH

The Church Body

- All part of one body
 - No one more or less valuable
 - All are needed
 - Is anyone in church an “appendix”?
- The body grows
 - Christians grow and mature and so does a church
 - Your growth impacts others

Practical Application

- Find a good church per **Acts 2**
- Attend
- Get involved in Bible Studies
- Opportunities to fellowship
- Opportunities to serve
- Find ways to use what God gave you

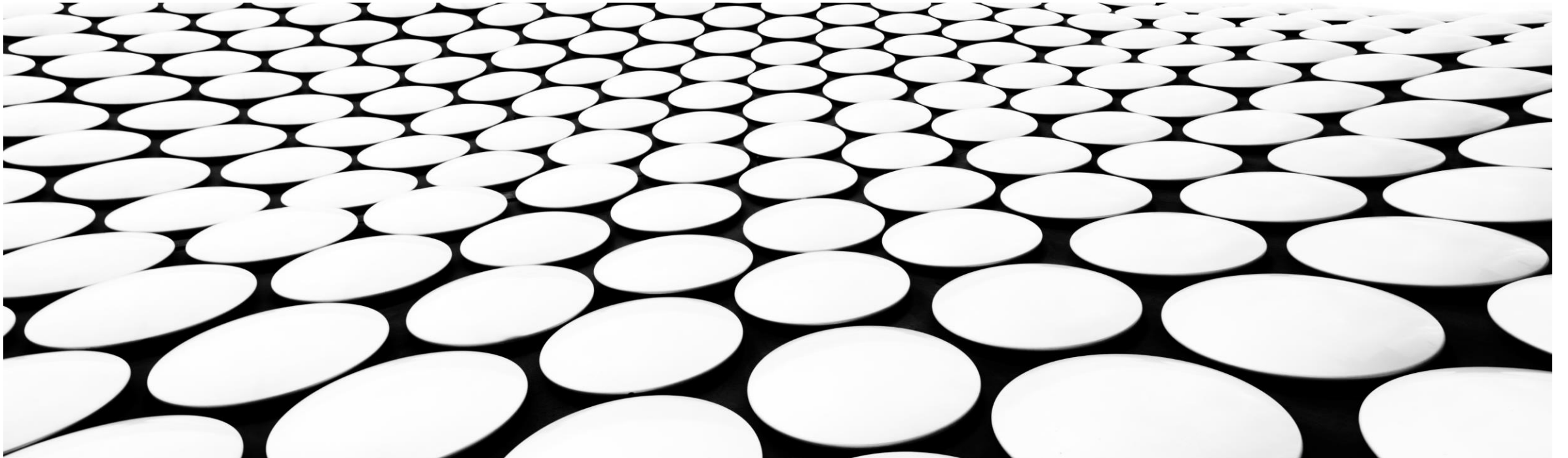
HOMEWORK

- Chapter 3
 - Answer questions
 - Pray and meditate on this throughout the week
 - Be ready for next week
- Extra Credit
 - Is there a wrong way to pray?
 - Read Judges 20:18-25
 - Why did God lead them to defeat?



START TO FOLLOW: WORSHIP AND PRAYER

CHAPTER 3



OUTLINE

- Some Opening Thoughts
- How To Worship
- Prayer
- What Now?
- Homework





SOME OPENING THOUGHTS

- What does it mean to be a “new creation?”
- What does it mean to have ‘eternity in our hearts.’
- What is worship?
- Hebrews 13:15-16

“The Bible teaches us that the God who does not need anything nevertheless desires the adoration and worship of His created children.”– A. W. Tozer



HOW TO WORSHIP

- Proclaim
 - Sing
 - Speaking to each other
 - Admonishing
- Do Good
 - Let your light shine to reflect God
 - Imitate God
- Share
 - Use your gifts
 - Tithes and offerings
 - Supply the saints

“Worship is practical. It happens before church, and it happens after church. Worship is not only singing; it’s serving.” – Greg Laurie

PRAYER

- What is the purpose of prayer?
 - Listen
 - Make requests
 - Become involved in what God is doing
- When to pray
 - All the time
- Why pray 'in Jesus' name?
 - What does this mean?
- What to pray for?
 - Thanksgiving and praise
 - Forgiveness
 - Help!
 - Everything... with thanksgiving
 - Pray for kings
 - Wisdom
- How?
 - Abide
 - Keep his commandments
 - According to His will

WHAT NOW?

- Prayer as incense
- What did you learn about prayer?
- What are things you can do to...
 - Proclaim
 - Do good
 - Share
- What are you...
 - Thankful for
 - Needing God's help with
 - Asking a friend to pray with you about



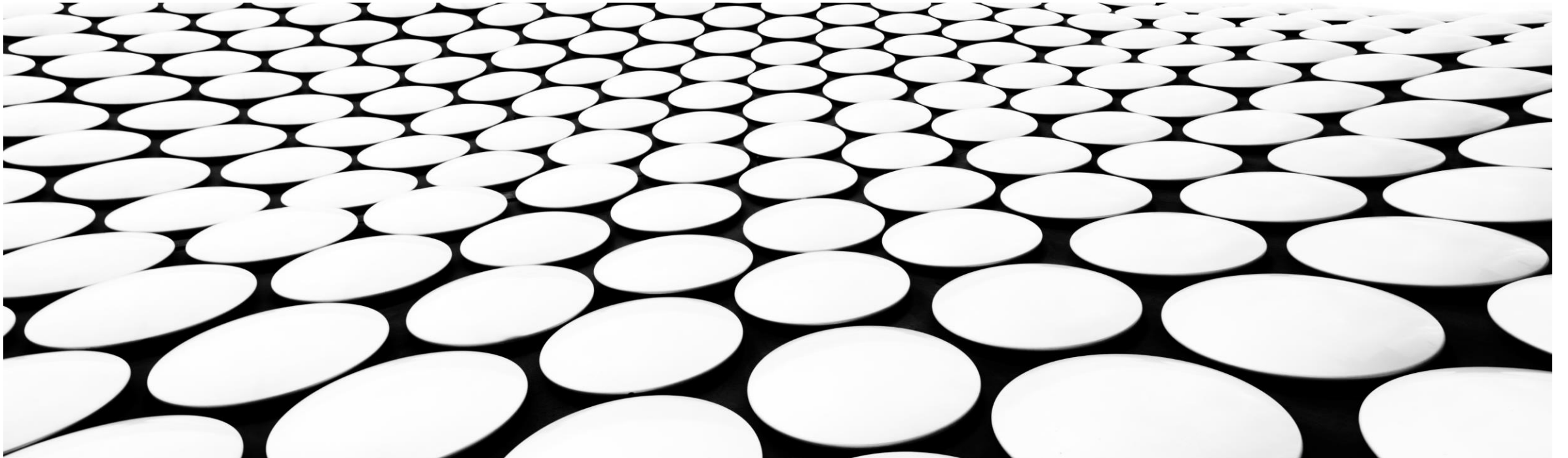
HOMEWORK

- Chapter 4
 - Answer questions
 - Pray and meditate on this throughout the week
 - Be ready for next week
- Extra Credit
 - How are we to contend for our faith?
 - How/what did the Apostles preach in Acts?



START TO FOLLOW: SHARING YOUR FAITH

CHAPTER 4



OUTLINE

- The Power to Share Your Faith
- Commands and Promises
- A Simple Message (Activity)
- Reflection
- Homework



THE POWER TO SHARE YOUR FAITH

- Holy Spirit gives power
 - Called to 'be a witness,' not 'to witness'
- Things that block us:
 - Fear
 - Inexperience
 - Unsure of the response
 - Social pressure
- Remember Philippians 4:13

COMMANDS AND PROMISES

- The Gospel of Christ (Romans 1:16)
 - What is the Gospel (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)
- How does faith come? (Romans 10:17)
- The Word does not return void (Isaiah 55:10-11)
 - What does that mean?
 - No one listened to the prophets
 - Even Isaiah was not listened to (Jeremiah 26:17-19)
 - Will get results... but they may not be what you expect

A SIMPLE MESSAGE (ACTIVITY)

The Message

- Realize
- Recognize
- Repent
- Receive

A Personal Message

- Salt and Light
 - Are we useless to God because we are not representing Him faithfully?
- Redeeming the time
 - Number our days (Psalm 90:12)
- The hope in us
 - What is that hope?
- 'In season and out of season' (2 Timothy 4:2)



REFLECTION

- Be Ready
 - If you are not ready, then get ready
 - How?
- Know the Gospel
 - What is the Gospel?
 - How is the Gospel defined?
- Our witness is about more than words; it is how we live our life
 - Do our lives reflect what we claim to believe?
- What do you (personally) need to do?

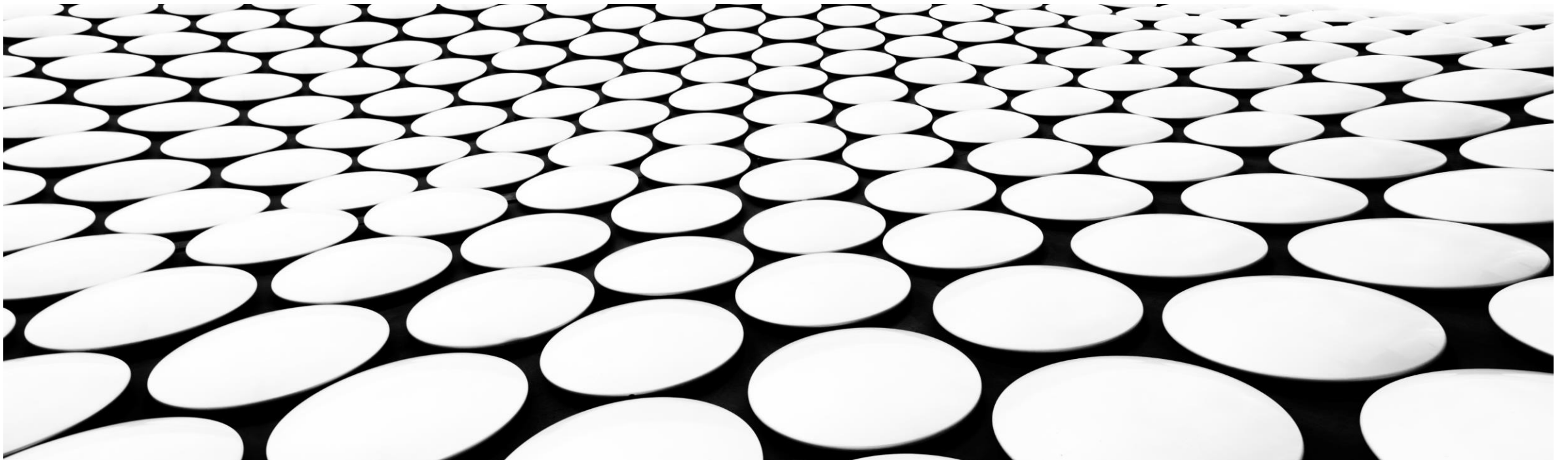
HOMEWORK

- One-Minute Message (p. 32-33)
- Chapter 5
 - Answer questions
 - Pray and meditate on this throughout the week
 - Be ready for next week
- Extra Credit
 - How does God speak to us?
 - How do you distinguish between God blocking your path, and the adversary trying to stop you?



START TO FOLLOW: KNOWING AND DOING GOD'S WILL

CHAPTER 5



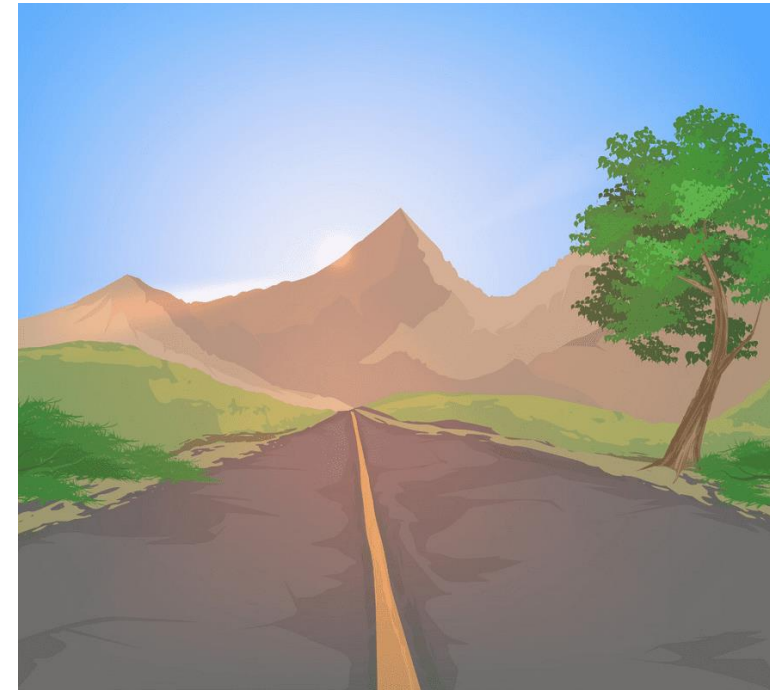
OUTLINE

- How Does God Lead?
- God's Word
- God's Will for Every Believer
- Discovering God's Will
- How Does God "Speak"?
- Reflection and Response
- Homework



HOW DOES GOD LEAD?

- By guesswork?
- Assume it is going to be miserable?
 - What about Jeremiah?
- If God has a plan for you, He will show you what it is (at least in part)
 - Step by step
 - Walk by faith



GOD'S WORD WILL...

- Light your path
- Profit
 - Doctrine (what is right)
 - Reproof (what is wrong)
 - Correction (how to get right)
 - Instruction in righteousness (how to stay right)



GOD'S WILL FOR EVERY BELIEVER...

- Deny lusts... live soberly...look for Christ
- Abstain from sexual immorality
- Put off...
 - Anger
 - Wrath
 - Malice
 - Blasphemy
 - Filthy language
- Put on...
 - Tender mercies
 - Kindness
 - Humility
 - Meekness
 - Longsuffering
 - Bearing with one another
 - Forgiving one another
- Finally...
 - Rejoice always
 - Pray without ceasing
 - In everything give thanks

DISCOVERING GOD'S WILL

- Leads one step at a time
- Obedience to go further
- God speaks in His Word
 - Know the Whole Word
 - Study the Whole Word
- Great peace from being in God's will





HOW DOES GOD “SPEAK”

- Circumstances
 - How do we know if a blocker is from God to direct us, or from the adversary to defeat us?
- **Carefully read Romans 8:28**
- Discernment
- Our “feelings” should align with God’s Word
 - Do not use feelings alone
- God’s provision in His leading
- Alignment is God’s Word, our circumstances, and desires God gave us

REFLECTION AND RESPONSE

- Where have you followed God's will?
 - What was the result?
 - Where are you currently following God's will?
- Where have you not followed God's Will
 - What was the result?
 - Where are you currently not following God's will
- What are decisions you need to make now?
- What are you unsure of?
- How will you go about finding God's will?
- **P. 41**

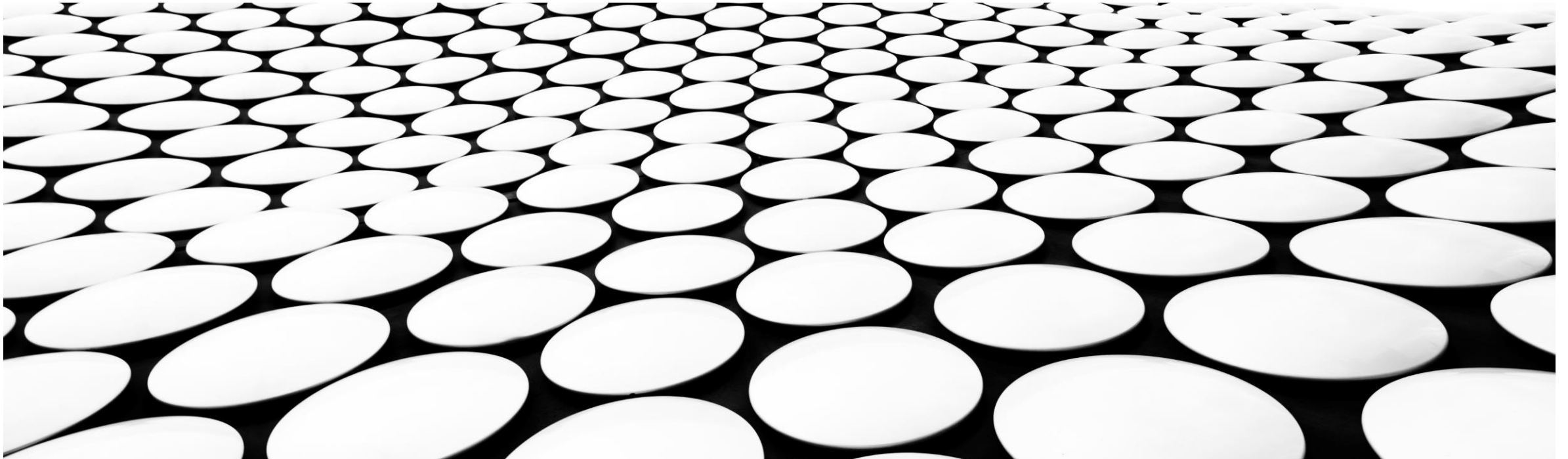
HOMEWORK

- Chapter 6
 - Answer questions
 - Pray and meditate on this throughout the week
 - Be ready for next week
- Extra Credit
 - What is the difference between a trial and temptation?
 - Why is there temptation in our lives if God does not want us to sin?



START TO FOLLOW: TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS

CHAPTER 6



OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Trials vs. Temptations
- Resisting Temptation
- Overcoming Temptation
- Perseverance in Trials
- Why do Christians Have Trials
- Our Response
- Homework



INTRODUCTION

- Christians have the Holy Spirit to help them, and to overcome temptation
- But your problems do not magically go away
 - You will probably have more problems after Salvation than before
- Sin's power is broken, but the enemy does not want you to realize that
 - Feeling this is true or not does not alter the reality of sin's destroyed power over you



TRIALS VS. TEMPTATIONS

Trials

- Trial/tribulation/etc. are usually synonymous
 - Refers to some difficulty in life
 - Can be a direct spiritual attack
 - Could be the result of a fallen world

Temptation

- Temptation is the pull to sin
 - Temptation itself is not sin
 - It is sin when we dwell or act on that temptation
- God will not tempt us
- Why? (James 1:13)

RESISTING TEMPTATION

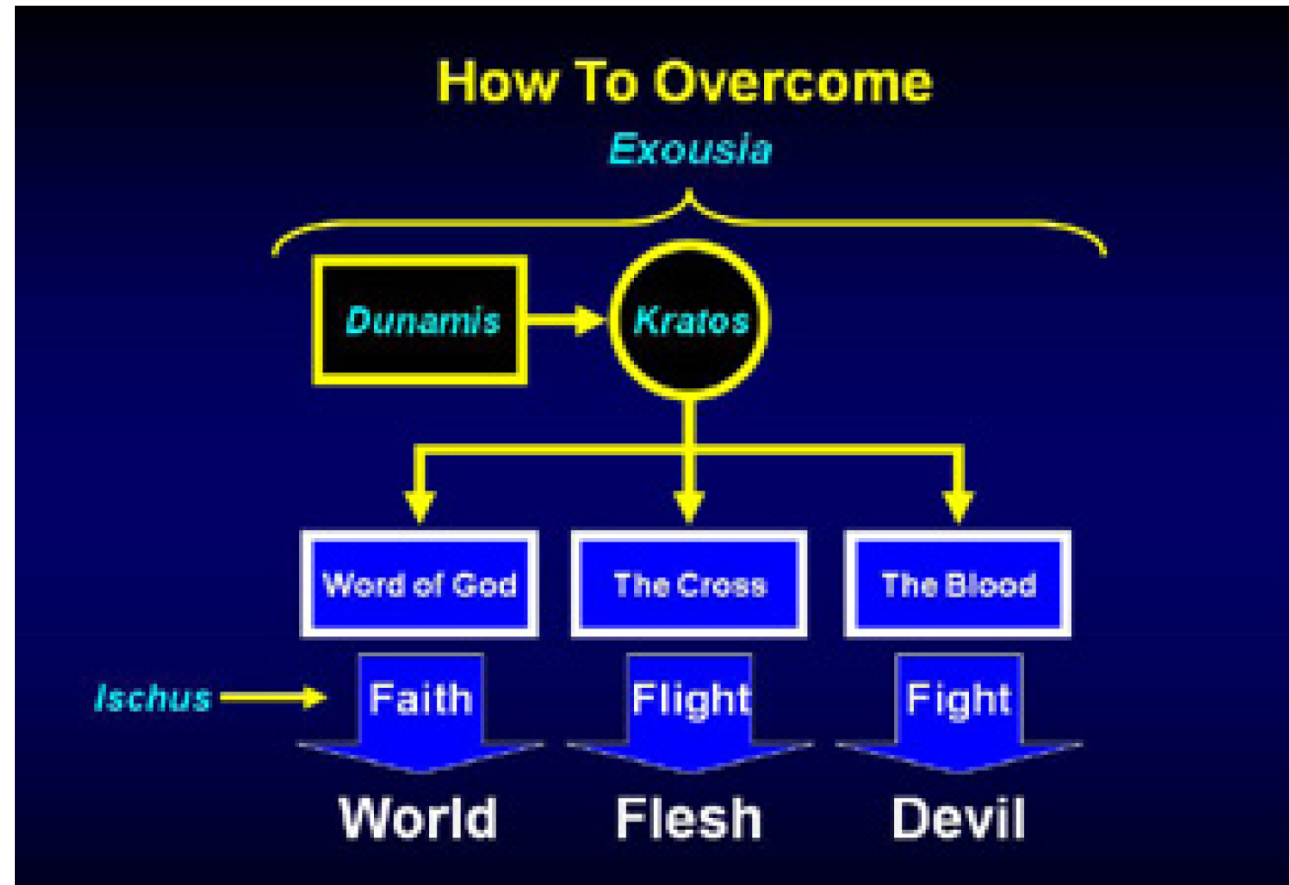
Enticements

- Lust of the flesh
- Lust of the eyes
- Pride of life

The Flesh

- The old nature
- 1 Corinthians 10:13
- James 4:7-10
 - First, submit to God
 - Second, resist the devil

OVERCOMING TEMPTATION



PERSEVERANCE IN TRIALS

Perseverance

- With temptation there is an “out”
- In trials there is almost never a way out
- You need to get through it
- Perseverance is the key
 - Also one of the reasons for trials in our lives

Practical Application

- Galatians 6:2-5
 - How do we help others with their burdens?
- God’s Promises in Trials
 - Psalm 55:22
 - Isaiah 41:10

WHY DO CHRISTIANS HAVE TRIALS?

- **To glorify God** (Dan 3:16-18, 24-25)
- **Discipline for known sin** (Heb 12:5-11; James 4:17; Rom 14:23; 1 John 1:9)
- **To prevent us from falling into sin** (1 Pet 4:1-2)
- **To keep us from Pride** (2 Cor 12:7-10)
- **To build faith** (1 Pet 1:6-7)
- **To cause growth** (Rom 5:3-5)
- **To teach obedience and discipline** (Acts 9:15-16; Phil 4:11-13)
- **To equip us to comfort others** (2 Cor 1:3-4)
- **To prove the reality of Christ in us** (2 Cor 4:7-11)
- **For testimony to the angels** (Job 1:8; Eph 3:8-11; 1 Pet 1:12)

OUR RESPONSE

James 4:7-8

- Submit to God
- Resist the Devil
- Draw Close to God
- Repent of Sin

Personal, Practical Steps

- Thought Life
- Habits
- Relationships

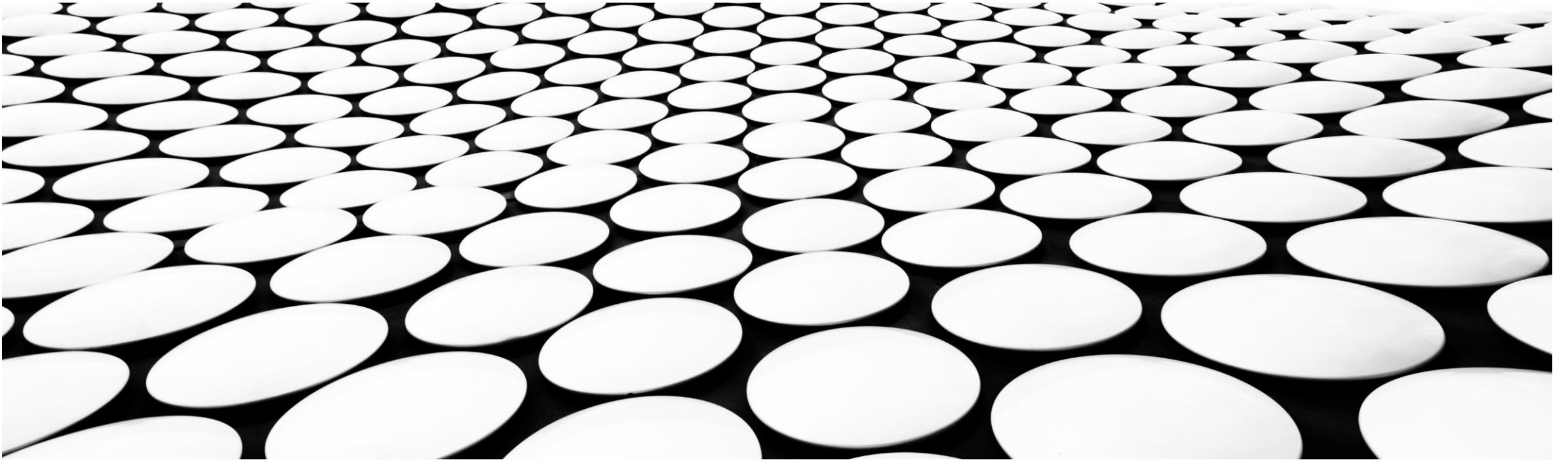
HOMEWORK

- Chapter 7
- Extra Credit
 - The Trinity
 - The Incarnation
 - What is the difference between a contradiction and a paradox?



INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY: INTRO & NARRATIVE TEXT

CHAPTER 7



OUTLINE

- Contradictions and Paradoxes
- Attributes of God
- Nature of the Three Persons of the Trinity
- Reflection and Response
- Run the Race with Endurance
- Homework



CONTRADICTIONS AND PARADOXES

- Contradictions are not paradoxes
 - Resolution involves additional information/perspective
- The Trinity
- The Incarnation



ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

- God is Eternal
 - What does “Eternal” Mean?
- God is All-Knowing
- God is Ever-Present
- God is All-Powerful
 - Can God do Anything?
 - What do we mean by “All-Powerful”?
- God is Unchanging
 - Old Testament vs. New Testament

NATURE OF THE THREE PERSONS OF THE TRINITY

■ Creation of the Universe

- Father: Psalm 102:25
- Son: Colossians 1:16; John 1:1-3
- Spirit: Genesis 1:2; Job 26:13

■ Creation of Man

- Father: Genesis 2:7
- Son: Colossians 1:16
- Spirit: Job 33:4
- Plurality: Isaiah 54:5

■ The Incarnation

- Father: Hebrews 10:5
- Son: Philippians 2:5-7
- Spirit: Luke 1:35

■ The Death of Christ

- Father: Psalm 22:15; Romans 8:32; John 3:16
- Son: John 10:18; Galatians 2:20
- Spirit: Hebrews 9:14

■ The Atonement

- Father: Isaiah 53:6, 10
- Son: Ephesians 5:2
- Spirit: Hebrews 9:14

■ The Resurrection of Christ

- Father: Acts 2:23-24; Romans 6:4
- Son: John 10:17-18; John 2:19
- Spirit: 1 Peter 3:18; Romans 8:11

■ The Resurrection of All Mankind

- Father: John 5:21
- Son: John 5:21
- Spirit: Romans 8:11

■ The Inspiration of the Scriptures

- Father: 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- Son: 1 Peter 1:10-11
- Spirit: 2 Peter 1:21

NATURE OF THE THREE PERSONS OF THE TRINITY

■ Minister's Authority

- Father: 2 Corinthians 3:5-6
- Son: 1 Timothy 1:12
- Spirit: Acts 20:28

■ The Indwelling Presence

- Father: Ephesians 4:6
- Son: Colossians 1:27
- Spirit: 1 Corinthians 6:19

■ The Work of Sanctification

- Father: Jude 1:1
- Son: Hebrews 2:11
- Spirit: 1 Corinthians 6:11

■ The Believer's Safekeeping

- Father: John 10:29
- Son: John 10:28; Romans 8:34
- Spirit: Ephesians 4:30

■ Eternal existence

- Father: Psalm 90:2
- Son: Revelation 1:8, 17-18; John 1:2; Micah 5:2; Zechariah 12:10; Hebrews 1:1-4; Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 41:4
- Spirit: Hebrews 9:14

■ Infinite Power

- Father: 1 Peter 1:5
- Son: 2 Corinthians 12:9
- Spirit: Romans 15:19

■ Omniscience

- Father: Jeremiah 17:10
- Son: Revelation 2:23
- Spirit: 1 Corinthians 2:11

■ Omnipresence

- Father: Jeremiah 23:24
- Son: Matthew 18:20
- Spirit: Psalm 139:7

NATURE OF THE THREE PERSONS OF THE TRINITY

■ Holiness

- Father: Revelation 15:4
- Son: Acts 3:14
- Spirit: Isaiah 6:3

■ Truth

- Father: John 7:28
- Son: Revelation 3:7
- Spirit: 1 John 5:6

■ Benevolence

- Father: Romans 2:4
- Son: Ephesians 5:25
- Spirit: Nehemiah 9:20

■ Disposition for communion

- Father: 1 John 1:3
- Son: 1 John 1:3
- Spirit: 2 Corinthians 13:14

REFLECTION AND RESPONSE

- How does the nature of God impact:
 - Your view of Him?
 - Your walk with Him?
 - What will you do or change as a result?
 - Your duty to Him?
- How do the Attributes of God Personally Change Your Walk?
 - Not just academic

RUN THE RACE WITH ENDURANCE

- **How we treat other believers**
 - Heb 6:10; Matt 10:41-42
- **How we exercise our authority over others**
 - Heb 13:17; James 3:13
- **How we employ our God-given abilities**
 - 1 Cor 12:4-7; 2 Tim 1:6; 1 Pet 4:10
- **How we use our money**
 - 1 Cor 16:2; 2 Cor 9:6-7; 1 Tim 6:17-19
- **How we spend our time**
 - Ps 90:12; Eph 5:15-16; Col 4:5; 1 Pet 1:17
- **How much we suffer for Jesus**
 - Matt 5:11-12; Mark 10:29-30; Rom 8:18; 2 Cor 4:17-18; 1 Pet 4:12-13
- **How we run that particular race which God has chosen for us**
 - 1 Cor 9:24; Phil 2:16; Phil 3:13-14; Heb 12:1-2
- **How effectively we control the old nature**
 - 1 Cor 9:25-27
- **How many souls we witness to and win to Christ**
 - Prov 11:30; Dan 12:3; 1 Thess 2:19-20
- **How we react to temptation**
 - James 1:2-3; Rev 2:10
- **How much the doctrine of the Rapture means to us**
 - 2 Tim 4:8-9
- **How faithful we are to the Word of God and the flock of God**
 - Acts 20:26-28; 2 Tim 4:1-2; 1 Pet 5:2-4

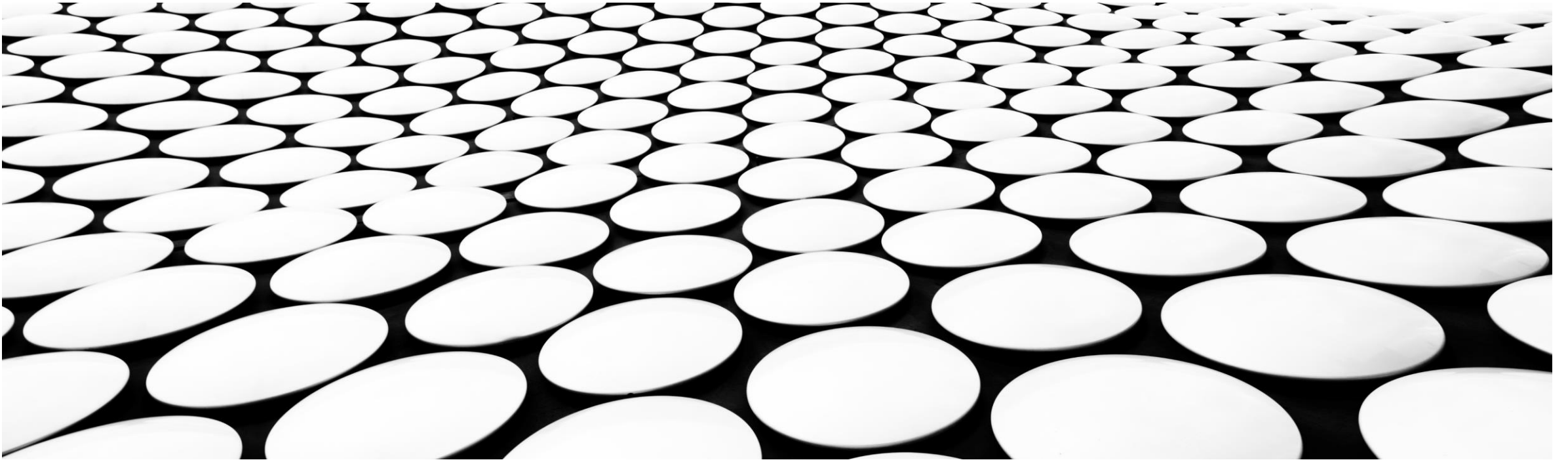
HOMEWORK

- Get IBS Study Guide
- Familiarize yourself with p. 1-16
- Extra Credit: See if you can do the first assignment



INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY: INTRO & NARRATIVE TEXT

SESSION 1



OUTLINE

- Seminar Overview
- Books of the Bible
- Bible Study Methods
- Observation
- Interpretation
- Application
- Bible Study Chart
- Assignment 1

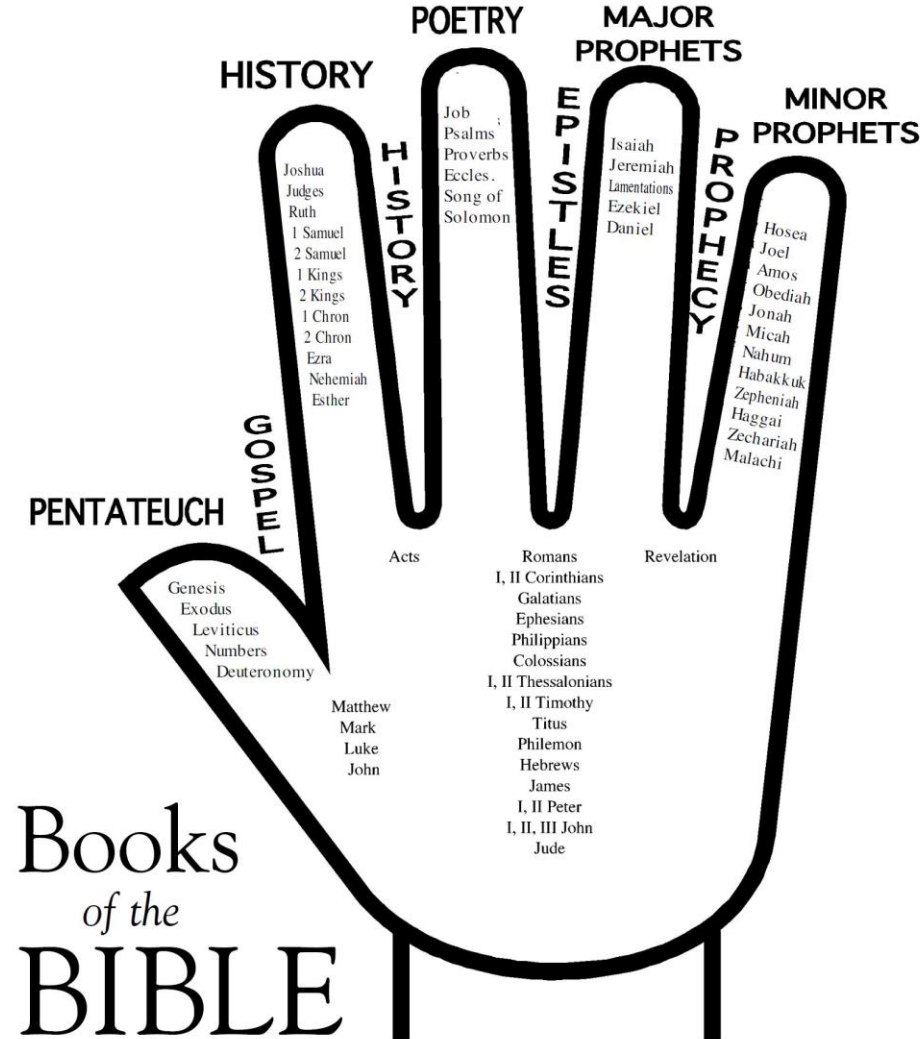


SEMINAR OVERVIEW

Acts 17:11 and Romans 15:4

- Written Forms of the Bible
 - **Narrative:** Story/character driven
 - **Epistles:** Letter form
 - **Parables:** Analogy/object lessons
 - **Poetry:** Full of imagery and expressions
 - **Prophecy:** Forth-telling of God's Word/plan
- Learn to:
 - Outline Main Ideas From the Passage
 - Chart
 - Sermon Outline -> Sermon
 - Inductive Questions -> Bible Study
 - Conduct a Bible Study

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE: TEACH THE WHOLE BIBLE





BIBLE STUDY METHODS

- **Inductive:** Pulls out facts from the text
- **Deductive:** Starts with a premise
- **Springboard:** Shares opinion/uses the passage to talk about something else

OBSERVATION

- Observation: What does the text say
 - Read text several times
 - Record first impressions (second and third impressions)
 - Who, What, When, Where, and How
- Observation without any of the following steps is just a college course
- Failure to make proper observations renders the text meaningless
 - God says what He means and He means what He says. Do not ignore that and miss the point

Forms	Story Forms (Narrative)	Instructional & Exhortive Forms (Epistles)	Poetic, Parables, Prophetic Revelation Forms
BASIC TOOLS for OBSERVATION	<p>Ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ Who? ☛ What? ☛ When? ☛ Where? ☛ How? <p>Retell the event</p> <p><i>Find the relationship between characters.</i></p> <p><i>Try to feel the emotions.</i></p> <p><i>Place yourself in the shoes of each character.</i></p> <p><i>What do you see?</i> <i>What do you Feel?</i> <i>What do you Think?</i></p>	<p>Outline the development of ideas in the passage.</p> <p>Note repeated words.</p> <p><i>Look for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ Comparisons ☛ Contrasts ☛ Transition words <p>Such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ therefore ❖ in order that ❖ because ❖ for ❖ since <p><i>Every word becomes important in understanding the whole.</i></p>	<p>Hebrew poets used parallelism, one idea said two different ways.</p> <p><i>A proverb is a type of statement where human behavior is compared to something in nature.</i> E.g. Proverbs 5:3</p> <p>A Parable is an art form Jesus used to deliberately hide the truth from those who did not want to hear.</p> <p>Prophetic revelation tells divinely inspired revelations of future and present events.</p>

INTERPRETATION

- **Interpretation: What does the Text Mean**
 - Literal Interpretation
 - Context, Context, Context
 - Let Scripture Interpret Scripture
 - ‘The New Testament is in the Old Testament concealed; The Old Testament is in the New Testament revealed.’
- **“When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense.** Therefore, take every word at it’s primary, ordinary usual meaning unless the facts of the immediate context studied in the light of elated passages and fundamental truths indicate clearly otherwise.”
- **Interpret difficult passage in the light of easy passages, not the other way around.**
- Faulty interpretation leads to faulty application and poor spiritual development

BASIC TOOLS *for*

INTERPRETATION

Tools for interpretation are the same for all three forms:

It is an attempt to determine what the passage meant to the people who originally hear it.

1. What does the author mean to make him write this way?

- see
- feel
- think

2. Why does he write this?

3. What would it mean to the people who heard it in biblical time and culture?

There are some tools that are good
for instructional and exhortive forms.

- (a) What is the reason for the idea?
- (b) Why did the author use it?
- (c) Could he have used another word?
- (d) What does the idea mean?
- (e) What is the relationship of this idea to events
before following ideas?
- (f) Context is most important.

GUIDELINES FOR INTERPRETATION

- Interpret your experience by the **Scriptures**. Do not interpret the **Scriptures** by your experience.
- Do not be dogmatic when the **Scriptures** are not.
- Determine when a **passage** is figurative rather than literal.
- Do not rationalize the **Scriptures**.
- Do not spiritualize the **Scriptures**.
- Interpretation without proper observation will lead to error.

APPLICATION

- How should I respond?
 - Examples to follow
 - Examples not to follow
 - Sin to forsake
 - Errors to avoid
 - Promises to believe
 - Not all promises are things we may like
 - Commands to obey
 - Actions to take
- **Application must be based on proper Observation and Interpretation**
 - Application not grounded in proper Observation and Interpretation can lead to an improper walk
 - The line from Augustine to Auschwitz

**BASIC
TOOLS**
for
APPLICATION

**Tools for Application
are the same for all three forms:**

1. Appeal to Holy Spirit for teaching.

1 Corinthians 2:9-16

2. Apply the main point to your life, like:

Is there an example.....I/We should follow?

Is there a sinI/We should forsake?

Is there an errorI/We should avoid?

Is there a promise.....I/We should claim?

Is there a commandI/We should obey?

3. So what?

What do I plan to do about it?

What difference will this make in my life?

What specific plans can I make in my life?

What will I do?

How will I do it?

BIBLE STUDY CHART

Forms	Story Forms <i>(Narrative)</i>	Instructional & Exhortive Forms <i>(Epistles)</i>	Poetic, Parables, Prophetic Revelation Forms
E X A M P L E	History <i>account of events</i> such as: Gospels, Acts, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, etc. and records of the Old Testament Kings.	Logical development of a subject. Paul's Letters – Galatians, Romans, Titus, etc. The writings of Peter, John, James and some accounts of Jesus' teachings.	The arrangement of ideas into patterns. They used symbols and analogies to express the idea. such as: Psalms, Song of Solomon, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and the Parables of Jesus, etc.
Main Features <i>of the Forms</i>	People, places, events, and emotions.	Ideas, words, verbs, subjects, objects and arrangements of the passages.	Look for symbolism, parallels, analogies, etc.

BIBLE STUDY CHART: OBSERVATION

Forms	Story Forms <i>(Narrative)</i>	Instructional & Exhortive Forms <i>(Epistles)</i>	Poetic, Parables, Prophetic Revelation Forms
BASIC TOOLS for OBSERVATION	<p>Ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who? • What? • When? • Where? • How? <p>Retell the event</p> <p><i>Find the relationship between characters.</i></p> <p><i>Try to feel the emotions.</i></p> <p><i>Place yourself in the shoes of each character.</i></p> <p><i>What do you see?</i> <i>What do you Feel?</i> <i>What do you Think?</i></p>	<p>Outline the development of ideas in the passage.</p> <p>Note repeated words.</p> <p><i>Look for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparisons • Contrasts • Transition words <p>Such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ therefore ❖ in order that ❖ because ❖ for ❖ since <p><i>Every word becomes important in understanding the whole.</i></p>	<p>Hebrew poets used parallelism, one idea said two different ways.</p> <p><i>A proverb is a type of statement where human behavior is compared to something in nature.</i> E.g. Proverbs 5:3</p> <p>A Parable is an art form Jesus used to deliberately hide the truth from those who did not want to hear.</p> <p>Prophetic revelation tells divinely inspired revelations of future and present events.</p>

BASIC TOOLS for INTERPRETATION	<p>Tools for interpretation are the same for all three forms:</p> <p><i>It is an attempt to determine what the passage meant to the people who originally hear it.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does the author mean to make him write this way? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • see • feel • think 2. Why does he write this? 3. What would it mean to the people who heard it in biblical time and culture? <p>There are some tools that are good for instructional and exhortive forms.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) What is the reason for the idea? (b) Why did the author use it? (c) Could he have used another word? (d) What does the idea mean? (e) What is the relationship of this idea to events before following ideas? (f) Context is most important.
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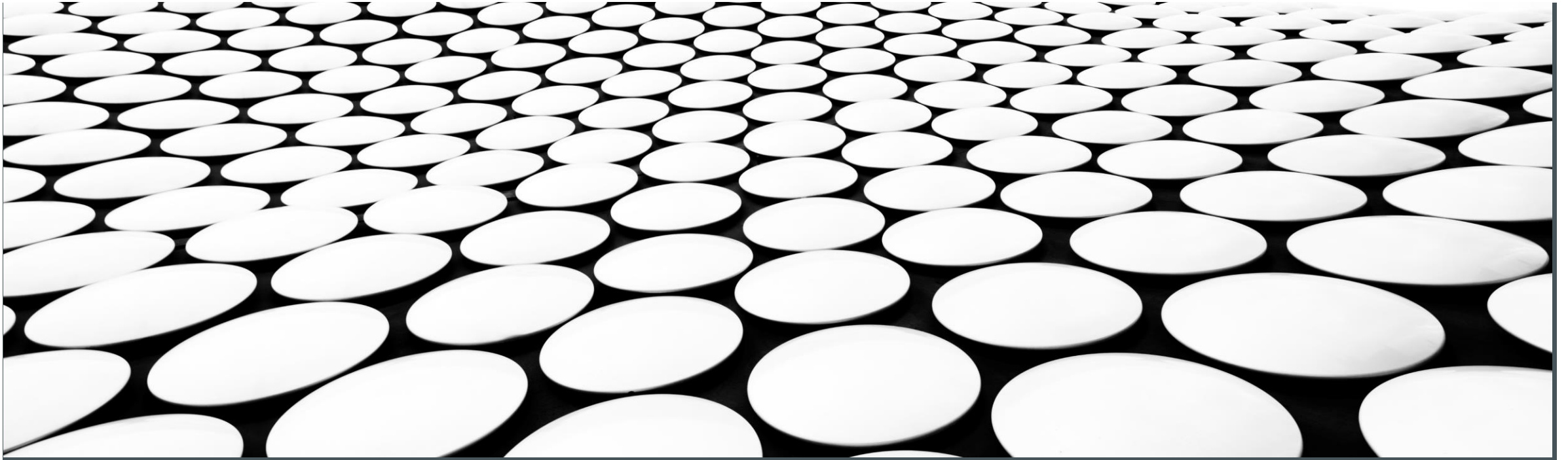
BASIC TOOLS for APPLICATION	<p>Tools for Application are the same for all three forms:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appeal to Holy Spirit for teaching. <small>1 Corinthians 2:9-16</small> 2. Apply the main point to your life, like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there an example.....I/We should follow? Is there a sinI/We should forsake? Is there an error.....I/We should avoid? Is there a promise.....I/We should claim? Is there a command.....I/We should obey? 3. So what? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do I plan to do about it? What difference will this make in my life? What specific plans can I make in my life? What will I do? How will I do it?
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ASSIGNMENT 1: MARK 2:1-12

INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY: POETRY

SESSION 2





OUTLINE

- Outlining
- Sample Outline(s)
- Charting
- Epistle Outline
- Assignment
- Homework

OUTLINING

- Starts the text examination process
- Many different ways to outline the same passage
 - Rarely will two be the same
 - Some outlines are simple/natural, and others are more difficult
 - Use what works for you, but make sure it is logical and consistent with the text
- Isolate each idea to better understand it
 - Helps understand the flow of a passage
- Simple Outline
 - Can be used on any book of the Bible
- Epistle Outline
 - Aids in understanding and communicating the Epistles
 - Epistles (particularly Pauline Epistles) are highly logical and organized. Understanding the logic and flow of ideas is important to grasping the God's main point(s)



SIMPLE OUTLINE

- Simple Outline
 - Used for any book of the Bible
 - Identify where each thought begins and ends
- **Always go in sequence from verse to verse**
- Step 1: Read the passage **carefully** several times
 - Understand the basic intent or idea of the passage as a whole
 - This is the foundation of everything that follows
- Step 2: Write a short description of the main theme of the text
- Step 3: List the main ideas of the text citing the verses for each section

SIMPLE OUTLINE EXAMPLE: PSALM 128

PSALM 128

THEME: *The fear of the Lord is good.*

- I. The Fruit of fearing the Lord (Vs. 1-4)
- II. The happy results (Vs. 5-6)

SIMPLE OUTLINE EXAMPLE: EZRA

EZRA

THEME: *Rebuilding the Temple.*

I. Rebuilding under Zerubbabel (Ch. 1-6)

- A. The first return of the captives (Ch. 1-2)
- B. Rebuilding the Temple (Ch. 3-6)

II. Reforms under Ezra (Ch.7-10)

- A. Second return of the captives (Ch. 7:1-8:32)
- B. Reforms “Rebuilding the people” (Ch. 8:33-10:44)

EPISTLE OUTLINE

- Epistles tend to be logical, structured texts in the form of a letter
- **Introduction**
 - Author and audience
 - Greetings
 - Thanksgiving
- **Statement of Purpose**
 - Why was the letter written.
 - Usually a good indicator of the main ideas/points/themes of the Epistle
- **Main Teaching**
 - The actual “meat” of the Epistle
 - Ideas may cover a few verses or a few chapters
 - Remember that chapter and verse divisions are a man-made construct
 - Paul sometimes interrupts himself before continuing on with an idea
- **Closing**
 - Final concluding thoughts and/or benediction

EPISTLE OUTLINE EXAMPLE

Book of Titus

I. INTRODUCTION	Ch. 1:1-4	Paul writing to Titus
A. Ch. 1:1-4		Greetings
B. (None)		Thanksgiving
II. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE (Reason for writing)	Ch. 1:5	(Two-fold) To set in order the ministry in churches: and to appoint elders.
III. MAIN TEACHING	Ch. 1:6 thru 3:14	Appointing elders and setting the church in order.
Three Main Ideas:		
A. Ch. 1:6-16		Elders qualifications and work.
B. Ch. 2:1 – 3:11		Christian duties in Church and Sound Doctrine.
C. Ch. 3:12-14		Personal Concerns
IV. CLOSING	Ch. 3:15	

CHARTING

- After outlining a passage, you can start to break the text down further by charting
- Use the **Observation, Interpretation, Application (IBS) System**
- Take each section and go through it verse by verse
 - Note important words, phrases, ideas
 - Be careful and complete
 - You get out what you put in
 - Do this in the whole text

CHARTING EXAMPLE

Observation (O) <i>(State Facts of Text; Important Words and ideas)</i>	Interpretation (I) <i>(Explain meaning here)</i>	Application (A) <i>(Make general & specific application)</i>
<p>1.) Idea Vs. 1-2 <i>These verses are the introductions to the book.</i></p> <p>Vs. 1 Paul and Timothy</p> <p>Servant of Jesus Christ</p>	<p>Almost all epistles have an introduction</p> <p>Paul is the writer of this text, but includes Timothy's name.</p> <p>Paul recognizes that he is alive to serve Jesus</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>NOTE: make application by showing how to put what you have learned into action: WHAT will you do? HOW will you do it?</p> </div> <p>I/We want to be a servant of Jesus Christ. How?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a servant's attitude. 2. Teach Sunday School. 3. Volunteer to help in Church.
<p>To saints in Christ Jesus →</p> <p>Vs. 2 Grace and Peace →</p>	<p>Paul is writing to believers. A saint is not a statue but someone born-again.</p> <p>Terms used for greeting one another and are trademarks of Paul's letter. Grace – favor from God Peace – freedom from fear and anxiety in our hearts.</p>	<p>I am a saint because of Jesus in my life. So I will live in a holy, Christ-like style.</p> <p>I have the grace and peace of God in my life. I do not have to live in fear. His grace and peace mark my life.</p>
<p>2.) Idea Vs. 3-6 <i>These are summarizing verses telling purpose of letter.</i></p> <p>Vs. 4 Prayer and Joy</p>	<p><i>Paul has great joy not because of his circumstances but because of the work of Christ in his life.</i></p>	<p>I can have joy regardless of my circumstances because Christ is at work in me.</p>



ASSIGNMENT 2: PSALM 1

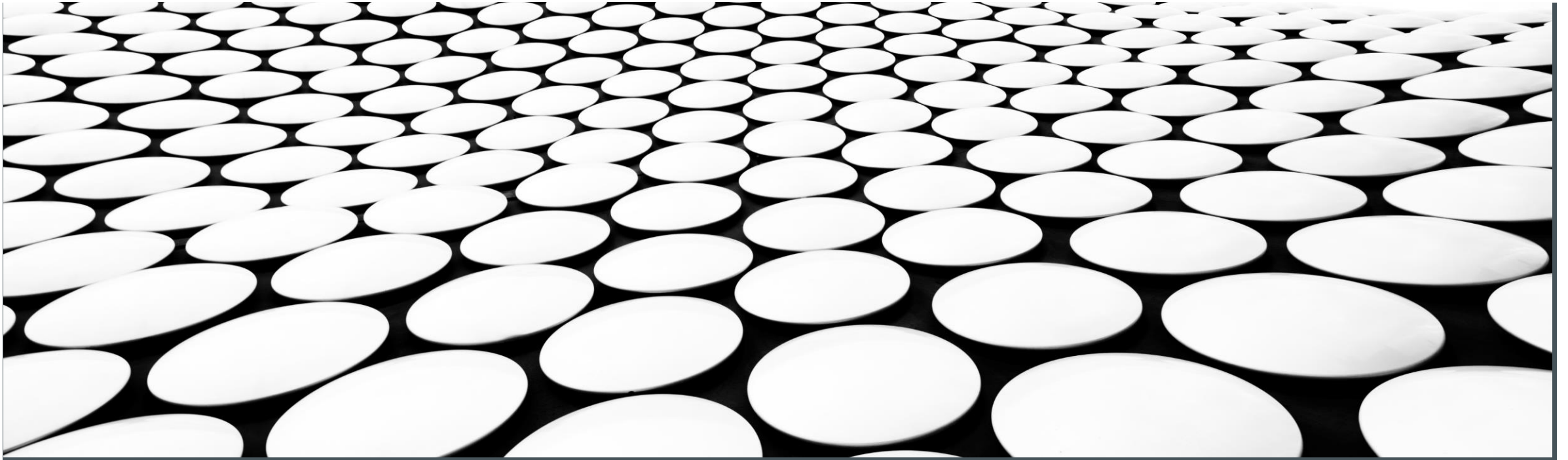


HOMEWORK: JUDE

- Outline and chart the book of Jude
- If you really get into this you will find that you can do this almost indefinitely
 - Many interesting discoveries to find in Jude
- **It is normal for people to run out of paper/time to complete this assignment**
 - That is OK. Do as much as you can. You will not exhaust it
- We will discuss next week

INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY: HEBREW POETRY

SESSION 3





OUTLINE

- Homework Review
- Hebrew Poetry and Parallelism
- Types of Hebrew Parallelism
- Handout
- Assignment



HOMEWORK REVIEW: JUDE

HEBREW POETRY AND PARALLELISM

- Parallelism is a rhyming of thoughts, not syllables
 - Comparing or contrasting of ideas across lines
- Use the parallelism of Hebrew poetry to gain an insight into the meaning of the text
- Poetry uses figurative language to convey ideas
 - The imagery may be figurative, but the things it conveys are literal
 - Focus on the idea God is communicating

TYPES OF HEBREW PARALLELISM

- **Synonymous Parallelism:** The same idea expressed in multiple ways
 - **Example:** “Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; wives of Lamech listen to my speech!” Genesis 4:23
- **Synthetic Parallelism:** Additions to the original concept
 - **Example:** Psalm 1
 - Each subsequent phrase adds to the idea (walk, stand, sit)
- **Antithetic Parallelism:** Contrasting ideas
 - **Example:** “The tongue of the wise makes knowledge acceptable; But the mouth of the fool spouts folly.” Proverbs 15:2
 - The second phrase is often the negative (anti-thesis) of the first (thesis)



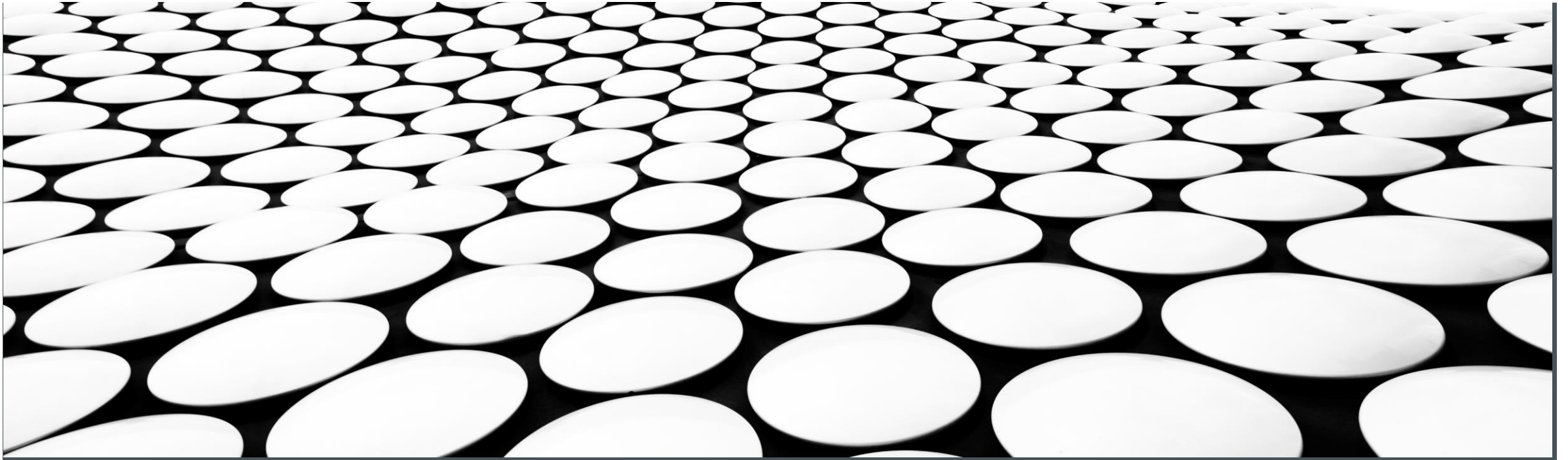
HANDOUT



ASSIGNMENT: PSALM 139

INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY: INDUCTIVE QUESTIONS

SESSION 4





OUTLINE

- Formulating Inductive Questions
- Observation Questions
- Interpretation Questions
- Application Questions
- Assignment

FORMULATING INDUCTIVE QUESTIONS

- STUDY the passage
 - Surface study yields surface results. Deep study yields deep results.
- Study for yourself
 - What does God want to teach ME
- Note points of significance to include in teaching/future study
- When studying to teach, ensure questions and points lead the audience to the major points that need to be highlighted
 - Keep in mind the target audience: old, young, mature, immature, etc.
- Lead a study start to finish with incremental steps that tie the passage together
 - Note how the major points support the theme/point of the book and Bible as a whole

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS

Questions

- Who is involved in the passage?
- What are they doing?
 - What happened?
 - What is the order of events?
- What just happened to them?
- Where are they?
- What are the people around them doing?
- What are they feeling?
- Does the narrator comment on what happened?

Tasks

- Pray before studying
- Take the text as it is
- **Identify key words/phrases**
 - How is it used in the passage and the Bible
 - How was it culturally meant/understood
- **Define words/terms**
 - Be careful of similar words or phrases
 - Almost the same is not the same
- **Place the passage in its context**
 - Local, cultural, narrative, etc.

INTERPRETATION QUESTIONS

Questions

- Why did the event happen?
 - What if it did not happen?
- What is the significance of the events?
- What happens because of the passage?
 - Short-term impact
 - Long-term impact
- What are people's reaction?
 - Why?
- **What is the key point of the passage?**
 - Why did God bother to tell us about it?

Tasks

- **Interpretation follows observation. NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND**
- Ensure interpretation is consistent with the whole of Scripture
- Identify the reason behind the passage structure
- Find the main truth/point of a passage
 - How does it fit in with God's plan?
 - How does it fit within the book/narrative as a whole?
- **What is stated and what must be inferred?**
- Do not interpret a clear passage with an unclear passage. Interpret an unclear passage with a clear passage



APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Questions

- How does this apply to me?
- What do I need to do/change?
- What can I pray about?

Tasks

- Let the application follow the observation and interpretation. NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND.
- Ensure application is consistent with the whole of Scripture
- Pray about whatever God has shown you.
- JUST DO IT.



ASSIGNMENT: MARK 6:45-52

MARK 6:45-52

Observation

- Jesus called them to the boat (v. 45)
- This was for the disciples, not the crowd (v. 45)
- Separation between Jesus and the disciples (v. 46)
- Jesus went to pray (v. 46)
- Jesus saw their struggle (v. 48)
- Jesus acted in a way only He could act (v. 48)
- Disciples made a false assumption (v. 48-49)
- Jesus comforted them (v. 50)
- The storm calmed (v. 51)
- Lack of understanding because from a previous teaching (v. 51-52)

Interpretation

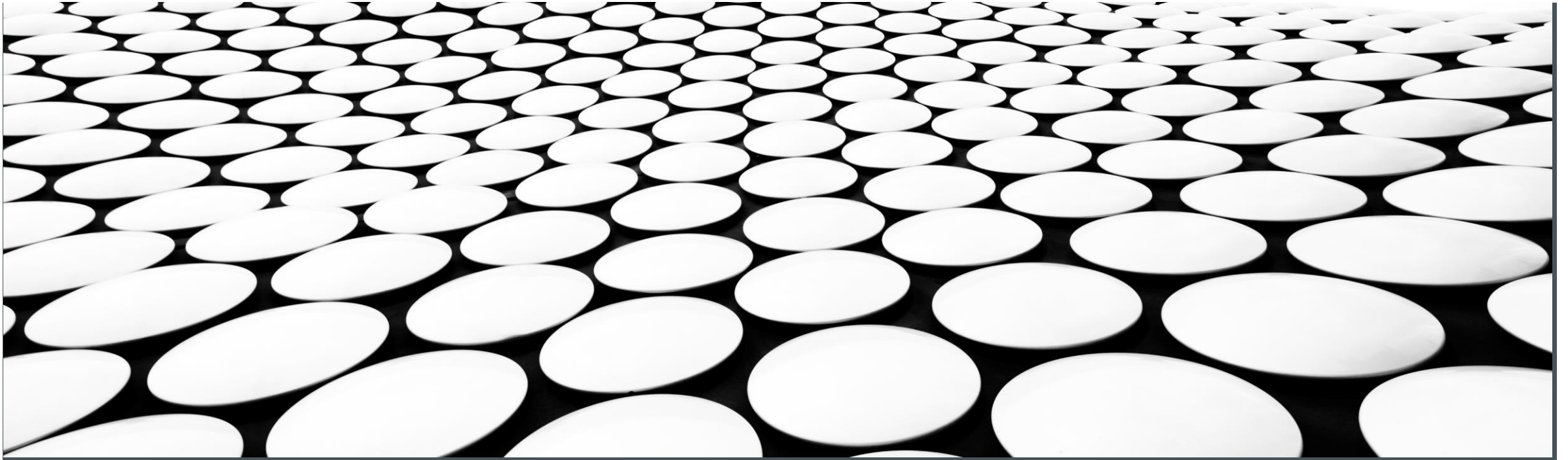
- Immediate Action
- Action required change
- There are some lessons the unbeliever cannot receive or understand
- Even Jesus needed to pray
- God does things so that only He gets the glory
- Letting circumstance dictate perception
- Jesus cares about those that are His
- Storm calmed after Jesus gave comfort
- Could not receive a truth because they did not receive a previous one

Application

- When God calls us to something, we must act immediately on it.
- Separation from the world.
- If Jesus needed to pray, then so do we.
- How important is prayer to us?
- Do we always recognize this? Do we try to take the glory from God?
- How do we react/perceive when going through a hard time?
- God still loves you, even in the storm
- Following Christ is no promise of smooth sailing
- Search the Scriptures and act on them

INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY: PARABLES

SESSION 5





OUTLINE

- Parables
- Guidelines for Understanding Parables
- Begin with Immediate Context
- Identify the Central Point of Emphasis
- Identify Irrelevant Details
- Identify Relevant Details
- Assignment

PARABLES

- A parable is a short story meant to illustrate a spiritual truth from an example from everyday life
 - Jesus often used parables
 - Parables are also in the Old Testament
- **Historic events can be used as an illustration, but a parable is a specially crafted story to make a certain point**
 - Parables are not history, but must be true to life
- Parables are not allegories
 - In parables there is one point, in allegories there are many points/meanings in everything
- Purpose of parables
 - **Obscure truth to the unresponsive**
 - **Make clear truth to the responsive**



GUIDELINES FOR UNDERSTANDING PARABLES

- Begin with the immediate context
- Identify the central point of emphasis
- Identify irrelevant details
- Identify relevant details

BEGIN WITH THE IMMEDIATE CONTEXT

- What is the occasion for the story (Luke 15:1-2)?
- What is the meaning of the parable (Luke 15:7, 10; Matthew 24:44; 25:13)?
 - If a parable is explained, then you do not need to look for some other meaning
- Who is the parable directed at?
- Why is this important?



IDENTIFY THE CENTRAL POINT OF EMPHASIS

- Look at the context of the passage before and after the parable
 - Luke 15:4 – One lost sheep
 - Luke 15:8-10 – One lost coin



IDENTIFY IRRELEVANT DETAILS

- Details that are not necessary to the specific truth being conveyed (Luke 17:7-9)
 - Luke 15:4 – 99 safe sheep
 - Luke 15:8 – 9 safe coins
- Do not be distracted from the main idea/point
- Why is it a problem to get distracted?



IDENTIFY RELEVANT DETAILS

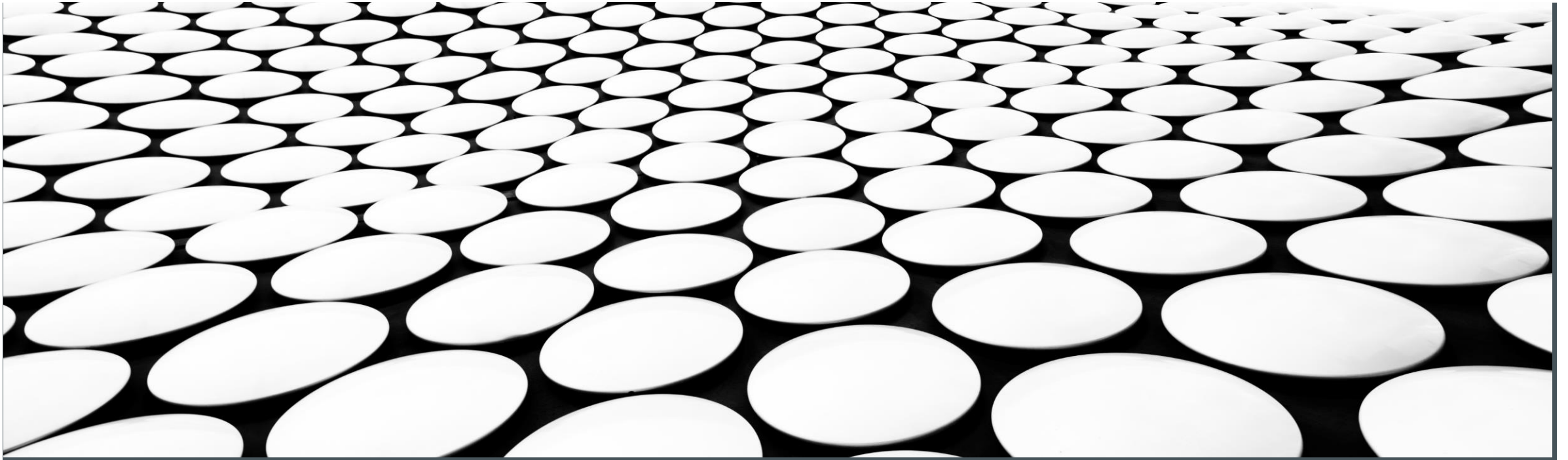
- Story details that reinforce the central theme
 - Prodigal son
 - Lost and is now found
- How do you distinguish between relevant and irrelevant details?
 - Does it support the main theme?



ASSIGNMENT: MARK 4:1-20

INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY: PROPHECY

SESSION 6





OUTLINE

- Prophecy
- Language
- The Mountain Peaks of Prophecy
- The Perspective of Prophecy
- Eschatology
- Assignment/Homework

PROPHECY

- 28% of the Old Testament is prophetic
- 21% of the New Testament is prophetic
- The total amount of prophecy in the Bible demonstrates how much God cares about it
- **Predictive Prophecy:** Foretelling the future
- **Didactic Prophecy:** Dealing with moral, ethical, or theological truths

LANGUAGE

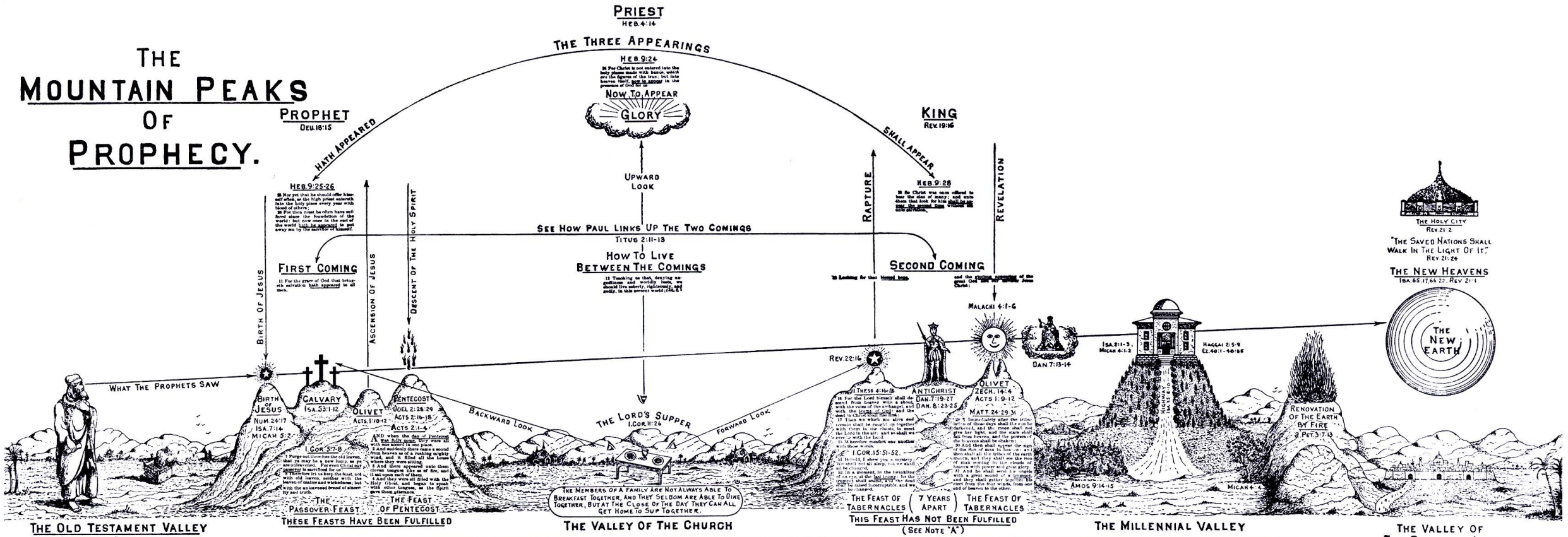
- **Literal Language:** Take the passage at its most obvious, simple, straightforward meaning unless there is a good reason to do otherwise
 - Always start here
 - God says what He means, and means what He says
- **Figurative Language:** Identify figurative passage, but follow ordinary rules of language in distinguishing between literal and non-literal
 - Look for absurd things (Isaiah 11:1)
 - Understand the cultural figures and ideas they were familiar with
 - Picture language is often used, such as Daniel 7:17

Even if a figure is used, the thing it represents is real and has a literal fulfillment

PROPHETIC CAUTION AND DIFFICULTIES

- Determining the type of prophecy is often difficult
 - Amos 9:13-15
 - Is this figurative or literal?
 - Generally start with the assumption that a passage is literal
- Prophecy requires a knowledge of the Scriptures as a whole
 - Prophecy can be rewarding because it forces you to dig into Scripture
 - Prophecy can be difficult if you do not dig into it
- Prophecy includes past, present, and future
 - Often “jumps” around in time
 - Does not always follow a sequential pattern

THE MOUNTAIN PEAKS OF PROPHECY.



ISA 61:2
THE Spirit of the Lord is upon me, and he has anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the eyes to the blind; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

JER 23:5
I will build the days come, with the clouds, that I will raise up unto you a righteous Branch.

ZECH 9:9
I will praise thee, O daughter of Zion, which sayest, I will not see war, nor will I build bulwarks: for I will have peace, and I will build towers of ivory, and battlements of silver, and will build upon the hills of Jerusalem.

THESE VERGES FROM ISAIAH AND JEREMIAH, SHOW HOW A 'COMMA' MARKS A SPACE OF UPWARD OF 2000 YEARS, TAKING IN THE WHOLE OF THE PRESENT DISPENSATION. JESUS QUOTED ISA. 61:2, IN LUKE 4:17-21, BUT STOPPED AT THE 'COMMA', THUS SHOWING THAT THE BALANCE OF ISA. 61:2, WAS STILL FUTURE.

ZECH 14:4
I will stand upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem to the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be broken up to the middle thereof toward the east, and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley, and half of the mountain shall be removed, and half of it shall be cast into the sea.

ZECH 8:5-4
I will dwell with the Lord, I will not be afraid, for I will be as a palm tree, and as a cedar of Lebanon. I will dwell in the house of the Lord, for ever, and I will be as a palm tree, and as a cedar of Lebanon. I will dwell in the house of the Lord, for ever, and I will be as a palm tree, and as a cedar of Lebanon.

ZECH 14:20-21
In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLY TO THE LORD, HOLY TO THE LORD, HOLY TO THE LORD, shall be written upon the forehead of the horse, and of the man, and of the beast, and of the fowls of the air, and of every beast which shall be upon the earth: and they shall say to the Lord, Blessed be the name of the Lord for ever.

THESE VERSES SHOW HOW THE PROPHECY ZECHARIAH FORESAW DIFFERENT EVENTS IRRESPECTIVE OF THE 'TIME ELEMENT' AND NOT IN CONSECUTIVE ORDER.

ISA 61:2
read the end of verse: and of the day.

JER 23:5-6
and a King shall come, and shall be called, I will be to the Lord, and shall be called, I will be to the Lord, and shall be called, I will be to the Lord.

MOSES' VIEW-POINT B.C.1451

PRE-EXILIC PROPHETS

- JONAH'S VIEW-POINT B.C.882
- JOEL'S VIEW-POINT B.C.800
- HOSEA'S VIEW-POINT B.C.785-725
- AMOS' VIEW-POINT B.C.767
- MICAH'S VIEW-POINT B.C.750-710
- ISAIAH'S VIEW-POINT B.C.760-698
- NAHUM'S VIEW-POINT B.C.713
- ZEPHANIAH'S VIEW-POINT B.C.630
- HABAKKUK'S VIEW-POINT B.C.626

EXILIC PROPHETS

- JEREMIAH'S VIEW-POINT B.C.629-562
- DANIEL'S VIEW-POINT B.C.606-534
- EZEKIEL'S VIEW-POINT B.C.593-573
- OBADIAH'S VIEW-POINT B.C.580

POST-EXILIC PROPHETS

- HAGGAI'S VIEW-POINT B.C.520
- ZECCHARIAH'S VIEW-POINT B.C.518-487
- MALACHI'S VIEW-POINT B.C.507

GLORY

DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE REVELATION

CHRIST'S VIEW-POINT A.D.30

THE PROPHETS DID NOT SEE THE CHURCH

SECOND COMING

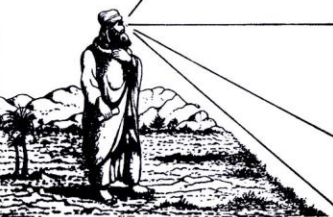
THE MILLENNIUM

RENOVATION OF THE EARTH BY FIRE 2.PET.3:5-13

THE NEW JERUSALEM

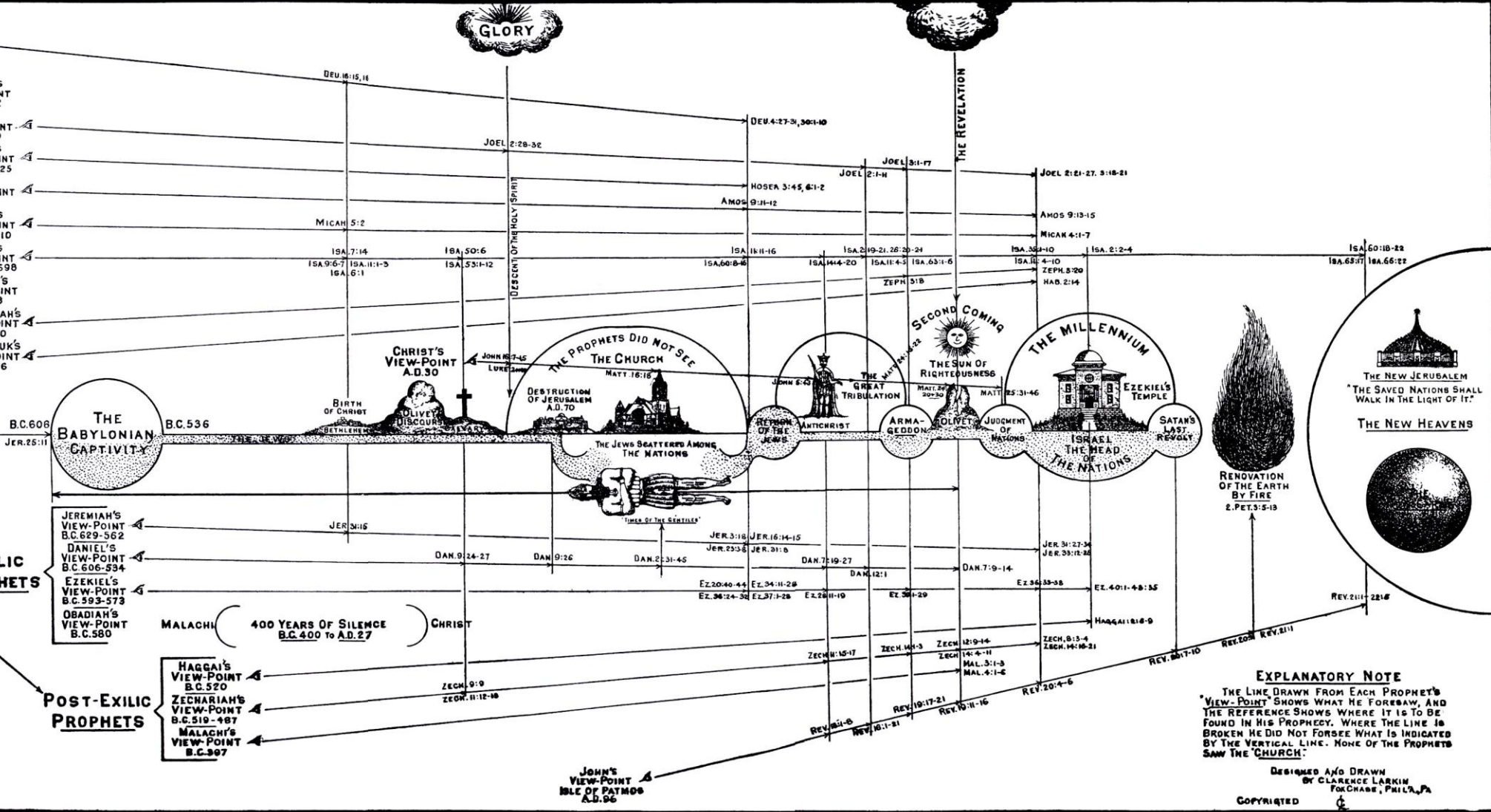
"THE SAVED NATIONS SHALL WALK IN THE LIGHT OF IT."

THE NEW HEAVENS



WHAT THE PROPHETS SAW

THE PERSPECTIVE OF PROPHECY

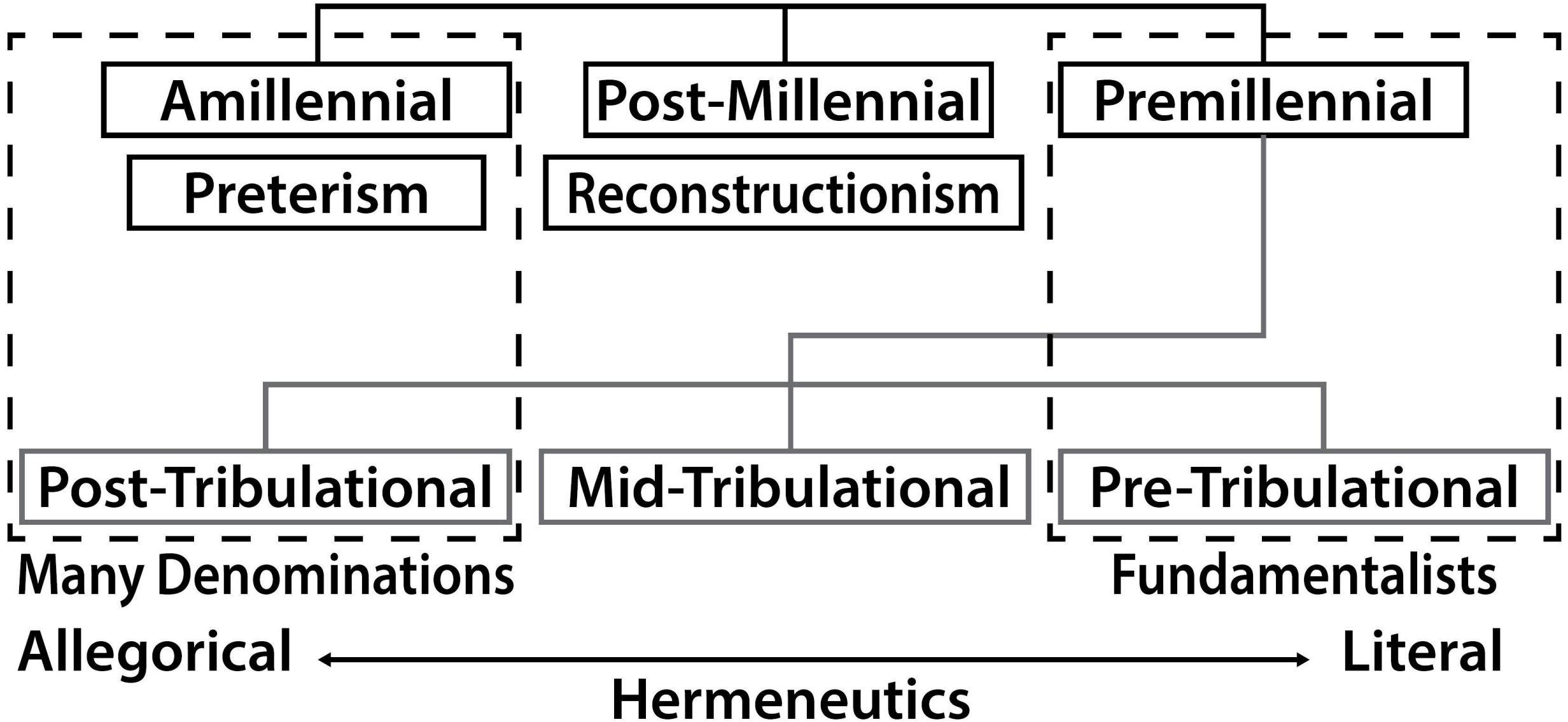


EXPLANATORY NOTE
 THE LINE DRAWN FROM EACH PROPHECY'S VIEW-POINT SHOWS WHAT HE FORESAW, AND THE REFERENCE SHOWS WHERE IT IS TO BE FOUND IN HIS PROPHECY. WHERE THE LINE IS BROKEN HE DID NOT FORESEE WHAT IS INDICATED BY THE VERTICAL LINE. NONE OF THE PROPHETS SAW THE CHURCH.

JOHN'S VIEW-POINT ISLE OF PATMOS A.D.96

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Eschatology

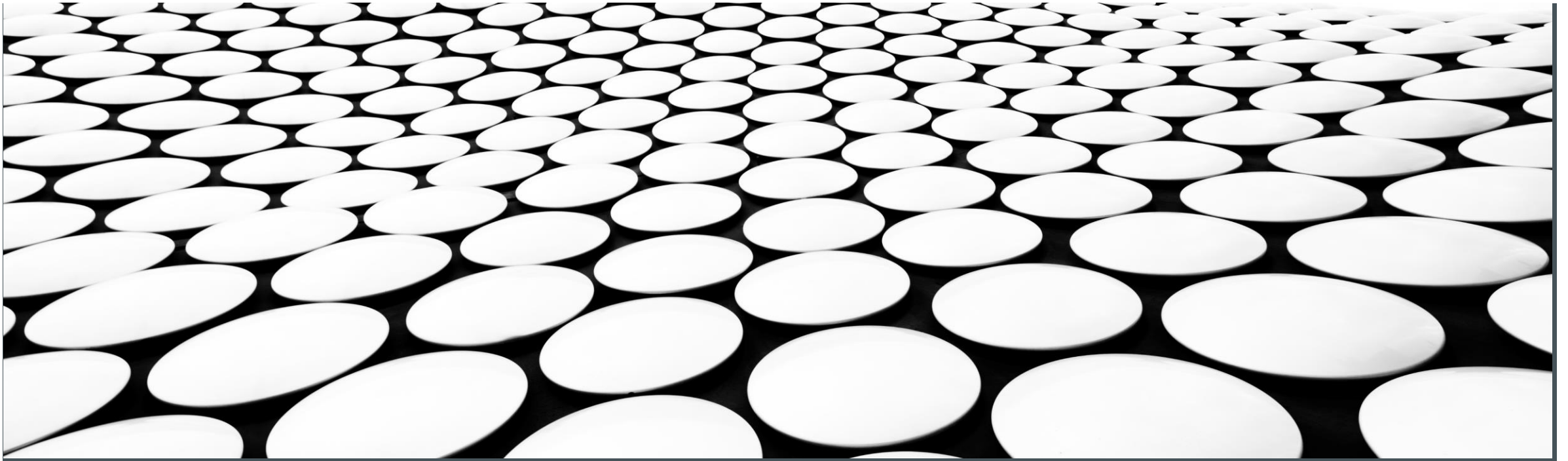




ASSIGNMENT/HOMEWORK: ISAIAH 1:1-31

INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY: APPENDIX

SESSION 7





OUTLINE

- How to Start and Prepare a Bible Study
- Evaluating Your Leadership
- General Considerations
- Small Group Dynamics
- Patterns of Interaction
- Dealing with Different Types
- Group Atmosphere

HOW TO START AND PREPARE A BIBLE STUDY

- Have you been called by God to do this?
 - Pray about this and do what God says
- Who to invite
 - God will prepare people
 - Just spread the word
 - People at church, work, school, friends, family, etc.
- Time
 - Each study is different
 - About an hour for the study is usually good (in the US)
 - Listen to God and be sensitive to the needs of the group
- Perpetration
 - 90% of the work for a Bible study happens behind the scenes
 - Make sure you can devote several hours a day to study and prep
- Make sure you feed yourself (spiritually) before you try to feed others
- Go through the IBS method
 - Read, outline, etc.
- Make sure you have questions for the group
 - Make it personal, not generic
 - Do not answer the questions for them, but rephrase it and point them back to the Scriptures

EVALUATING YOUR LEADERSHIP

■ Your Preparation

- Did you have enough time to pray and prepare?
- Did you actually understand the passage and communicate it effectively?

■ Your Attitude

- Did you just show up, or did you expect God to be there and work in the study?
- Did you care about the people there and their problems?

■ The Atmosphere

- Were people free to contribute?
- Were they comfortable?

■ The Timing

- Was it good for people who wanted to attend?
- Too short/long?

■ The Discussion

- Did people ask questions?
- Did they understand the passage?
- Did they go to the Bible for answers?
- Were your questions clear?
- Did one person dominate?

■ The Purpose

- Were the major points expressed and understood?
- Did the ideas of the passage tie together well?



GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Stay in the text
- Stay in the passage
- Stay on topic
- Try to get each person to contribute
- Make sure new people know the guidelines of the study



SMALL GROUP DYNAMICS

- Objective: Defined by the task at hand
- Subjective: Intergroup feelings/relationships
 - People want to feel like they are part of the group and have a purpose there
 - People want to be heard and know they are heard
- Problems tend to occur at the subjective level of group dynamics
- Be wise about these things, be compassionate, listen to God, and if there is a problem, do not let it fester



PATTERNS OF INTERACTION

- **Over-talkative:** Has something to say about everything (not all of it is helpful or on-topic)
- **Shy:** Rarely says anything
- **Observer:** Watches everything, but does not participate
- **Comic:** Always has something funny to say
- **Side-tracker:** Well-informed, but irrelevant contributions
- **Argumentative:** Strong opinions and will not change ideas
- **Hidden Agenda:** Something unexpressed on their mind/some unspoken idea is actually the issue

DEALING WITH DIFFERENT TYPES

- **Over-talkative:** Take them aside and let them know that others want to participate
- **Shy:** Be sensitive here, ask questions and encourage them, but do not force them
- **Observer:** Similar to shy
- **Comic:** Humor is good, **but only at the right time and place**
- **Side-tracker:** Bring them back on topic, or given them a time/sentence limit
- **Argumentative:** Similar to over-talkative, but may need to be more firm and set aside the discussion until later
- **Hidden Agenda:** Pray, take them aside, and deal with what is actually bothering them

GROUP ATMOSPHERE

- Important that everyone feels comfortable, accepted, **and that they came to study the Word of God**
- This is a time/place to learn
- Small groups are where people really grow spiritually
 - Can answer questions
 - Can aid each other
 - Accountability

CYCLE OF CHURCHES

