



VISION CHURCH  
GLORIFY GOD | MAKE DISCIPLES

# Biblical Literacy

January 8, 2020



Glorify God | Make Disciples

Mission

2020  
Theme

**MULTIPLY**



# Biblical Illiteracy

ALL Non-believers are biblically illiterate by spiritual birth. **Non-maturing believers are biblically illiterate by choice!**

**John 8:43-47 and 1 Cor. 2:14**



# John 8:43-47

43 **Why don't you understand what I say? Because you cannot listen to my word.** 44 You are of your father the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he speaks from his own nature, because he is a liar and the father of lies. 45 Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. 46 Who among you can convict me of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? 47 The one who is from God listens to God's words. **This is why you don't listen, because you are not from God.**"



# 1 Corinthians 2:14

**14** But the person without the Spirit does not receive what comes from God's Spirit, because it is foolishness to him; he is not able to understand it since it is evaluated spiritually.



# 2 Timothy 2:15

15 Be diligent to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who doesn't need to be ashamed, **correctly teaching the word of truth**



# Biblical Hermeneutics

**Biblical hermeneutics** is the study of the principles and methods of interpreting the text of the Bible. The **art and science** of scripture interpretation.





# Why Biblical Literacy?

1. Sanctification
2. Spiritual Maturity
3. Transformation
4. **Discerning Doctrine**
5. **Refuting Bad Doctrine**



# 1 Peter 2:1-3

## Sanctification

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all slander. 2 Like newborn infants, **desire the pure milk of the word**, so that you may grow up into your salvation, 3 if you have tasted that the Lord is good.



# Hebrews 6:1-3

## Spiritual Maturity

Therefore, let us leave the elementary teaching about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works, faith in God, 2 teaching about ritual washings, laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. 3 And we will do this if God permits.



# James 1:21-25

## Transformation

21 Therefore, ridding yourselves of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent, humbly receive the **implanted word**, which is able to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 Because if anyone is a **hearer of the word** and not a doer, he is like someone looking at his own face in a mirror. 24 For he looks at himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of person he was. 25 But the one who looks intently into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer who works — this person will be blessed in what he does.



# Ephesians 4:13-14

## Discerning Doctrine

14 Then we will no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around **by every wind of teaching**, by human cunning with cleverness in the techniques of deceit.



# Titus 1:9

## Refuting Bad Doctrine

9 holding to the faithful message as taught, so that he will be able both to encourage with sound teaching and to **refute those who contradict it.**



# Refute What?

- Hebrew Israelites
- Kemet
- Conscious Community
- Unredeemed Feminism
- Toxic Masculinity
- LGBTQ
- **“Christians”**
- And More



# Our Goal

1. Our goal when studying the **Bible is to draw the meaning out of the text**, and not to force our own understanding into it.
2. One interpretation, many applications.





# Priority

1. Context Many people fall prey to the idea that the reader's perception of a biblical text determines its meaning.
2. A text cannot mean something today that it did not mean when it was originally written.
3. Context, Simply defined, the context of a statement, verse, or passage is the setting in which it is spoken or written.
4. The context of a passage includes the verses before and after it.



# Context Quiz

- **Psalm 14:1**, which states, “**There is no God.**” But look at the entire verse:
- The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good.



**Inductive  
Bible  
Study  
Method**

1. Observation
2. Explanation
3. Application



# Observation

What Does the Text Say? The first step in the Inductive Bible Study Method is observation.



# Observation

- Who is the author?
- Who are the recipients?
- Who are the main characters involved in the text?
- What is happening in the text?
- What is the author intending to communicate?
- What are key words in the text?
- What is the context of this verse?
- What important comparisons or contrasts do you see?
- When do the events take place?
- Where do these events take place?
- Why do the events take place?
- Why was this text written?
- How do these events occur?



# Explanation

What Does the Text Mean?



# Explanation

In the second step of the inductive process, you will study the facts that you gathered during the observation stage. Out of these facts, a scriptural truth will emerge. This truth, called a **theological principle**, is a summary of the same truth conveyed by the author to the original audience.



# Explanation

1. The principle should be clearly reflected in the text.
2. The principle should be timeless and not attached to a specific situation.
3. The principle should not be culturally bound.
4. The principle should correspond to the teaching of the rest of Scripture.
5. The principle should be relevant to both the biblical and the contemporary audience.





# Explanation

- What do the key terms mean?
- How do the verses or phrases relate to each other?
- How does this passage fit into the larger story of the book it is in?
- How does this passage relate to the story of the Bible as a whole?
- How does this passage point to or speak of Jesus Christ?
- What are the differences between the biblical audience and me?



# Application

How Does the Text Apply to Me? The Bible is not merely a book to be learned, but a book to be lived.



# Application

We must not study the Bible to merely learn facts to fill our minds, but to learn lessons to form our lives.



# Application

- Is there an application already in the text?
- Is there a command or exhortation for how we should live?
- What does this biblical principle mean today?
- What would the application of this verse look like in my life?
- What difference does this make in my life?
- How can this biblical principle help me in my walk with God?



# Application

Our ultimate goal in studying the Bible is to become more like Christ.



# Contact Information

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The background of the image is a church interior with blue lighting. There are signs that say "WE ARE" in the background. The text "A VISION FOR" is written in white, uppercase letters. The word "Raleigh" is written in a large, black, cursive font. Below it, "A VISION FOR" is written again in white, uppercase letters, followed by the word "HOPE" in a large, white, uppercase font.

A VISION FOR  
*Raleigh*  
A VISION FOR  
HOPE

**Next Sunday, January 12, 2020 at 10 am**



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