



VISION CHURCH

Glorify God | Make Disciples

Biblical Literacy

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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.



Biblical Hermeneutics in the Bible

Taken directly from a Greek word, its **verb form** is used in Jesus' teaching on the road to Emmaus: And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he **interpreted** to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself (Luke 24:27).



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.



Exegesis vs. Eisegesis

1. **Exegesis** is the exposition or explanation of a text based on a careful, objective analysis. The word exegesis literally means “to lead out of.” That means that the interpreter is led to his conclusions **by following the text**.
2. The opposite approach to Scripture is **eisegesis**, which is the interpretation of a passage based on a subjective, non-analytical reading. The word eisegesis literally means “to lead into,” which means the interpreter injects his own ideas into the text, making it mean whatever he wants.



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.



Twisted Scriptures

1.1 Chronicles

16:22

2. Matthew 18:20

3. Acts 2:4



Deductive Bible Study Method

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Deductive Bible Study Method

1. Topic
2. Scripture
3. Application



Scripture

Deductive Bible Study, then, is simply taking a general statement and then going to Scripture to find details that support (or disprove) it. Inductive Bible study does the opposite. It starts with the details of Scripture and then builds a general or universal statement based on those details.



Application

When misused, deductive Bible study takes on aspects of a priori reasoning and biblical [eisegesis](#). In other words, deductive Bible study can facilitate a person's drawing a conclusion before the fact (a priori) of studying the biblical text or reading into it (eisegesis) his own meaning. Obviously, such a practice is dangerous and irresponsible because the conclusions that one might draw are often premature, subjective, and false.



Love

1 John 4:7-8

John 14:15

Romans 5:8

1 Corinthians 13



Questions

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