

Dwelling in God's Word Workshop

Week One

Name:

Date:

Dwelling In God's Word Workshop:

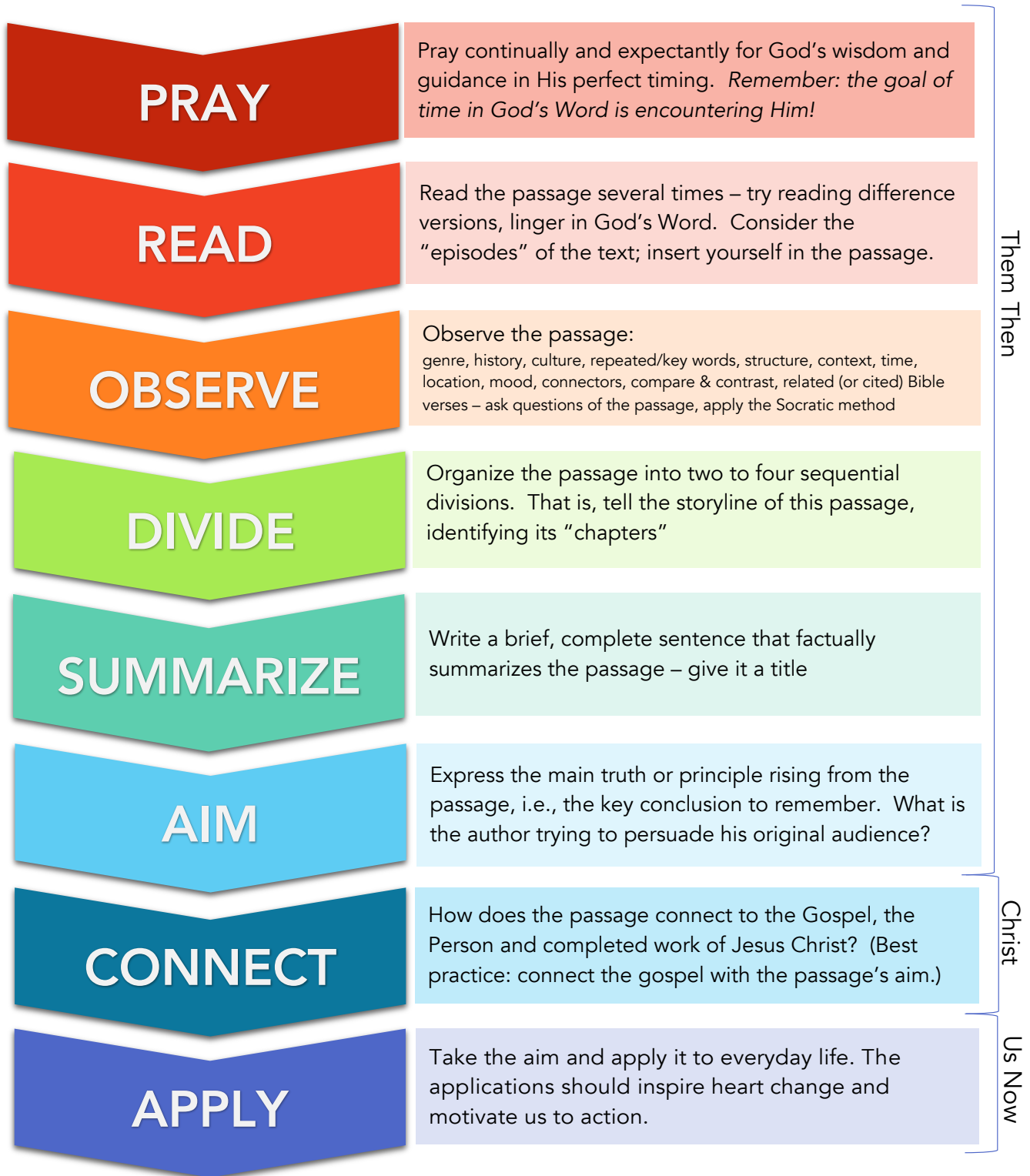
What does Scripture say about itself? What does it promise us?

What does it mean to dwell in God's Word?

How do we dwell in God's Word?

Dwelling In God's Word Workshop:

Analyzing Bible Passages



Dwelling In God's Word Workshop:

PRAY

Pray continually and expectantly for God's wisdom and guidance in His perfect timing. *Remember: the goal of time in God's Word is encountering Him!*

Pray:

- Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law" [Psalm 119:18](#)
- Lord, help us to pray like the blind man begging by the roadside, "Jesus, have mercy on me!" [Luke 18:38](#) "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" [Luke 18:13](#)
- Lord, help us to be DOERS of your word! We pray Lord for genuine change in our lives. Would you allow the seeds from Scripture to bear real, noticeable fruit! "Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves" [James 1:22](#)
- Lord, open my eyes to Jesus Himself! The works of God stand as marvelous mountain ranges in the Bible, but the highest peak, and the most majestic vista, is the person of Jesus. Show us how this passage reveals more of Him!

READ

Read the passage several times – try reading different versions, linger in God's Word. Consider the "episodes" of the text; insert yourself in the passage.

Read:

- suggestion: look at Blue Letter Bible or Bible Gateway
- also use a "real" Bible so you can easily see the whole passage and surrounding verses
- as you read, does something in the passage draw your attention or perplex you? Stop and pray, asking for the Holy Spirit's guidance and wisdom – this is part of dwelling!

Luke 9:10-17 Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand (ESV)

¹⁰On their return the apostles told him all that they had done. And he took them and withdrew apart to a town called Bethsaida. ¹¹When the crowds learned it, they followed him, and he welcomed them and spoke to them of the kingdom of God and cured those who had need of healing. ¹²Now the day began to wear away, and the twelve came and said to him, "Send the crowd away to go into the surrounding villages and countryside to find lodging and get provisions, for we are here in a desolate place." ¹³But he said to them, "You give them something to eat." They said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and buy food for all these people." ¹⁴For there were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." ¹⁵And they did so, and had them all sit down. ¹⁶And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing over them. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. ¹⁷And they all ate and were satisfied. And what was left over was picked up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

Initial thoughts:

Does anything in the text "jump out at you" that you didn't notice before?

Do any questions come to mind?

What words or phrases seem important?

Luke 9:10-17 Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand (KJV)

¹⁰ And the apostles, when they were returned, told him all that they had done. And he took them, and went aside privately into a desert place belonging to the city called Bethsaida.

¹¹ And the people, when they knew it, followed him: and he received them, and spake unto them of the kingdom of God, and healed them that had need of healing.

¹² And when the day began to wear away, then came the twelve, and said unto him, Send the multitude away, that they may go into the towns and country round about, and lodge, and get victuals: for we are here in a desert place.

¹³ But he said unto them, Give ye them to eat. And they said, We have no more but five loaves and two fishes; except we should go and buy meat for all this people.

¹⁴ For they were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, Make them sit down by fifties in a company.

¹⁵ And they did so, and made them all sit down.

¹⁶ Then he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them, and brake, and gave to the disciples to set before the multitude.

¹⁷ And they did eat, and were all filled: and there was taken up of fragments that remained to them twelve baskets.

Initial thoughts:

Does anything in the text "jump out at you" that you didn't notice before?

Do any questions come to mind?

What words or phrases seem important?

Luke 9:10-17 Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand (The Message)

¹⁰⁻¹¹ The apostles returned and reported on what they had done. Jesus took them away, off by themselves, near the town called Bethsaida. But the crowds got wind of it and followed. Jesus graciously welcomed them and talked to them about the kingdom of God. Those who needed healing, he healed.

¹² As the sun set, the Twelve said, "Dismiss the crowd so they can go to the farms or villages around here and get a room for the night and a bite to eat. We're out in the middle of nowhere."

¹³⁻¹⁴ "You feed them," Jesus said.

They said, "We couldn't scrape up more than five loaves of bread and a couple of fish—unless, of course, you want us to go to town ourselves and buy food for everybody." (There were more than five thousand people in the crowd.)

¹⁴⁻¹⁷ But he went ahead and directed his disciples, "Sit them down in groups of about fifty." They did what he said, and soon had everyone seated. He took the five loaves and two fish, lifted his face to heaven in prayer, blessed, broke, and gave the bread and fish to the disciples to hand out to the crowd. After the people had all eaten their fill, twelve baskets of leftovers were gathered up.

Initial thoughts:

Does anything in the text "jump out at you" that you didn't notice before?

Do any questions come to mind?

What words or phrases seem important?

Dwelling In God's Word Workshop:

OBSERVE

Observe the passage:

genre, history, culture, repeated/key words, structure, context, time, location, mood, connectors, compare & contrast, related (or cited) Bible verses – ask questions of the passage, apply the Socratic method

The purpose of OBSERVE is to prayerfully analyze the passage, answering questions about the passage and considering “them then.” By doing this, we become very familiar with the text, letting it inform us as we dig into what it is saying. Remember, every word is important.

Look at the context / setting of the passage:

What is the Biblical genre? (We analyze each genre differently.)

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE: factual retelling of real events – usually action

THE LAW: outlines God's commands to His covenant people

POETRY: written in verse form

WISDOM LITERATURE: reveals the collected wisdom of generations of godly people

PROPHECY: recounts visions of specific messages from God about the future

APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE: describes what the end times will be like

THE GOSPELS: includes eyewitness testimonies about the life of Jesus

THE EPISTLES: written in the form of a letter

Where is this passage taking place?

When is this passage taking place?

Who is in the story?

Continue to look at the context / setting of the passage:

What is happening right before the passage?

Luke 9:1-9

What is happening right after the passage?

Luke 9:18-62

Look at the content of the passage:

Restate the entire passage, reducing the content to a ten to twenty entry list of words, phrases and/or sentences that capture the content (write the verse(s) next to the entry

Consider carefully:

- Ponder the content – what is it saying? Take special care to determine details about the passage
- What might this have meant to the original audience?
- What words are repeated or stressed or seem important?
- Be careful to focus on what it is saying and not what you THINK it says. (This is especially important when a passage is familiar.)
- Remember that God's Word has depth that has no bottom – it is like looking at facets of a beautiful jewel

Content: reduce the entire passage to a list of words, phrases and/or sentences that capture the content – write the verses next to the summary

Content: Luke 9:10-17 Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

Example given:

10a Apostles (disciples sent out) returned told Jesus all that they had done

10b J took them privately aside to a desert place belonging to Bethsaida (house of fish / hunter)

11 When people found out, followed Him; J received them, spoke to them of K of God, healed them

12a day wearing away, 12 said to J, "send multitude away to towns to get lodge, provisions"

12b because we are in a deserted place

13a but J said to them, give them to eat – they said, we have only five loaves, two fish

13b except we should go buy meat for all these people

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Observations:

What questions does this passage raise for you?

What more would you like to know about it?

What do you want to ask God about this passage?

Biblical genre

History & culture

Context & location in Bible

Key words & definitions

Structure

Grammatical features

Mood

Connectors

Compare & contrast

Related (or cited) Bible passages

Dwelling In God's Word Workshop:

DIVIDE

Organize the passage into two to four sequential divisions. That is, tell the storyline of this passage, identifying its "chapters"

- Reduce the content list to an even shorter list, dividing the passage into two to four sections that follow the sequence of the passage and belong together
- The organization of the content helps you remember the details and recognize the passage's progression.
- Where is a logical place to divide the passage? What are the chapters or episodes of the text?
- In a narrative, where are transitions of actions?
- Write a brief, grammatically correct sentence (with a subject and verb) to summarize each section of the passage.
- Try to include important words from the text.
- Stick to the facts. The sentence reports the factual content of the passage not your interpretation or conclusion.
- Include the verses after the sentence.

Divisions:

I.

II.

III.

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SUMMARIZE

Write a brief, complete sentence that factually summarizes the passage – give it a title

- Write a single sentence of **ten** words or less that summarizes the facts of the passage.
- The sentence must have a subject and verb.
- Stick to the facts - the content of the passage, not your interpretation or conclusion.
- Incorporate your division sentences and reduce it to a concise summary.
- Start by writing a sentence that is too long and then refine it to ten words.
- Include details to identify this passage among similar passages in the Bible.

Subject Sentence:

Dwelling In God's Word Workshop:

AIM

Express the main truth or principle rising from the passage, i.e., the key conclusion to remember. What is the author trying to persuade his original audience?

- The aim captures the primary truth or principle the author is conveying, which is different from the facts stated by the summary sentence.
- The aim expresses the main truth taught throughout the passage.
- The aim must be doctrinally correct and universally true - in agreement with the teaching of the entire Bible (not taken out of context).
- The aim may be a truth about God or people - a biblical truth that leads you somewhere rather than summarizes facts.
- In the Luke 9 passage, what do you think Jesus wanted His disciples to learn?
- What do you think Luke was trying to persuade his original audience?

Aim:

Dwelling In God's Word Workshop:

CONNECT

How does the passage connect to the Gospel, the Person and completed work of Jesus Christ? (Best practice: connect the gospel with the passage's aim.)

Jesus teaches that all scripture points to Him:

- Remember that the Word is a Person –
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:1
- Jesus is the fulfilment of the Scriptures
 - *[Jesus] said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.* Luke 24:25–27
 - *"This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.* Luke 24:44–45

Connect to Gospel:

Dwelling In God's Word Workshop:

APPLY

Take the aim and apply it to everyday life. The applications should inspire heart change and motivate us to action.

APPLICATIONS - Motivating Change

Take the aim and put it into everyday life. The applications motivate to put the aim into action. They direct the main teaching of the passage into hearts and lives.

- Prepare at least one application per division.
- The goal is to transform the heart rather than merely change surface behavior.
- Balance applications that convict of wrong thinking with positive applications that encourage trust in and surrender to God.
- Balance applications that encourage evaluation of thinking and actions with applications that invite change in thinking and living (e.g., a right view of God, trust in Him, priorities etc.)
- Try to put yourself in the story
- What does it mean to you?

Applications:

I.

II.

III.