

Inductive Bible Study

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- **3 steps:**

- **Observe-Interpret-Apply**

- **Observe (Engage):**

- **Primary Question: What does the Author Say?**

- **Who, what, when, where, why, how questions**

- **Listening and imagination, mind and heart**

- **Tip-offs: Cause and effect or purpose words: therefore, for this reason/purpose, so that, in order to**

- **repeated words, ideas, images**

- **narratives: conflict, tension points**

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- **Interpret (Understand)**

- **Primary Question: What does it mean?**

- **Why did Jesus do this; what's the meaning of this part of the letter; what does Joshua's action here reveal to us about his heart**

- **Always consider context. Let scripture interpret scripture (consider cross references)**

- **Look to grasp the main ideas**

- **There is only one true interpretation—the author's original intent—and we want to get as close to that as possible!**

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- Apply (Respond)

- **Primary Question: What does this mean for us?**

- **How does this change how we think about God?
How I think about myself?**

- **What do I need to do in response to this passage?
What does the church do in response?**

- **Although there is only one true interpretation,
there are many possible applications!**

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