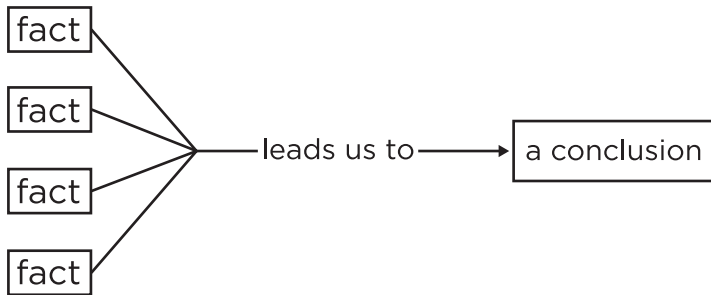


Session Two

I. REVIEW SESSION ONE: INTRO

A. The Word of God has benefit (value) for our lives.

B. Inductive Bible Study



Observation → Interpretation

C. Example of Ezra

Ezra 7:10

* Commitment....."devoted himself"

* Study....."the study"

* Practice....."observance"

* Teach....."teaching"

D. 5 Laws of Bible Study

See preceding page.

He who scorns instruction will pay for it, but he who respects a command is rewarded.

—PROVERBS 13:13

Facts → Conclusion

For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel.

—EZRA 7:10

“...I was always oppressed with a sense of my own stupidity in my dealings with Sherlock Holmes. Here I had heard what he had heard, I had seen what he had seen, and yet from his words it was evident that he saw clearly not only what had happened, but what was about to happen, while to me the whole business was still confused and grotesque.”

– THE REDHEADED LEAGUE

Inductive Bible Study and Crime Scene Investigation

- proceed slowly
 - see everything
 - observe all the clues
 - arrive at the truth
-

II. LAW OF OBSERVATION: REVIEW

A. LOOK FOR ... “Fundamental Questions”

B. LOOK FOR ... “Key Words”

C. LOOK FOR ... “Repeated Key Words”

A KEY THOUGHT:

The more time you spend in fruitful observation,
the less time you will spend in aimless interpretation.

Who?

What?

When?

Where?

Why?

How?

Seeing the Text...
with a pencil!

Use underlines,
boxes, and so forth to
highlight key words or
repeated key words.

Therefore there is now
no condemnation
for those who are
in Christ Jesus.

—ROMANS 8:1

“CREEP”

observable elements within a text that pull, tug, influence the reader

1. COMMANDS

James 4:7-8a

Submit yourselves then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you.

2. REBUKES

1 Corinthians 5:1-2

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that does not occur even among pagans: A man has his father's wife. And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have been filled with grief...?

3. EXHORTATIONS

Romans 12:1

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.

4. EXAGGERATION

Matthew 5:29-30

“If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away...”

5. PROMISES

2 Chronicles 7:14

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”

III. LOOK FOR ... “CREEP”

A. Observation takes time



To truly observe, "slow down" the observation process in order "to see," that is, "to truly see" the Scriptures; learn "to creep."

B. “CREEP” along as you observe

1. Look for COMMANDS
2. Look for REBUKES
3. Look for EXHORTATIONS
4. Look for EXAGGERATIONS
5. Look for PROMISES

“You see with the eyes, you observe with your mind.”

REFLECT:

How does “CREEP” found within a passage affect the reader intellectually, emotionally, spiritually?

e.g:
how does a “command” affect the reader

Read the Text!
Observe the Text!
Feel the Text!

N.B. the principle of “CREEP” relates to the feel of the text...how so?

“CREEP” Practice

1. Luke 14:26

“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple.”

Observational Principle: _____

2. 2 Corinthians 5:20

We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.

Observational Principle: _____

3. Proverbs 24:10

If you falter in times of trouble, how small is your strength!

Observational Principle: _____

Proverbs 29:23

A man’s pride brings him low, but a man of lowly spirit gains honor.

Observational Principle: _____

4. Galatians 5:16

So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

Observational Principle: _____

5. Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Observational Principle: _____

C. “CREEP” PRACTICE

Try to find one or more of the “CREEP” observational principles in the passages on the preceding page.

1. COMMAND:

- imperative
- urge
- order
- let us
- beseech

2. REBUKES:

- reprove
- scold
- reprimand
- censure
- admonish

3. EXHORTATIONS:

- exhort
- encourage
- urge
- insist
- press on
- implore

4. EXAGGERATIONS:

- overstate
- inflate
- embellish
- hyperbole

5. PROMISES:

- vow
- assure
- pledge
- if...then

Commands
Rebukes
Exhortations
Exaggerations
Promises

Examples:

Eat the donut now!

Really, you cannot eat another donut.

Eating donuts will always make you feel better.

Eat another donut and you'll explode.

If you eat another donut, then you will not be hungry for dinner.

“CREEP”

How does the passage affect me...?

How do I *feel*...?

“Peering into the mists of gray
That shroud the surface of the bay.
Nothing I see except a veil
Of fog surrounding every sail.
Then suddenly against a cape
A vast and silent form takes shape,
A great ship lies against the shore
Where nothing has appeared before.

Who sees a truth must often gaze
Into a fog for many days;
It may seem very sure to him
Nothing is there but mist-clouds dim.
Then, suddenly, his eyes will see
A shape where nothing used to be.
Discoveries are missed each day
By men who turn too soon away.”

– CLARENCE EDWARD FLYNN

D. Observational Principles

LOOK FOR...

a. James 1:2-8 NASB

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds,³ because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. ⁴ Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

Pencil ready!

- Key Words?
- Repeated Key Words?

Ⓞ Commands?

Ⓞ Rebukes?

Ⓞ Exhortation?

Ⓞ Exaggerations?

Ⓞ Promises?

Exhortation

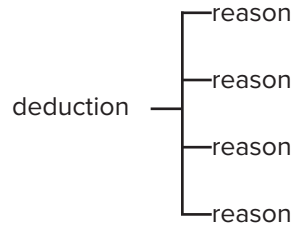
perfect? what does this mean?

command? requirement?

key word

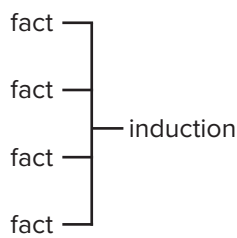
promise

"Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."



“I could not help laughing at the ease with which he explained his process of deduction. ‘When I hear you give your reasons,’ I remarked, ‘the thing always appears to me to be so ridiculously simple that I could easily do it myself, though at each successive instance of your reasoning I am baffled, until you explain your process. And yet I believe that my eyes are as good as yours.’

‘Quite so,’ he answered,... ‘You see, but you do not observe. The distinction is clear. For example, you have frequently seen the steps which lead up from the hall to this room.’



‘Frequently.’

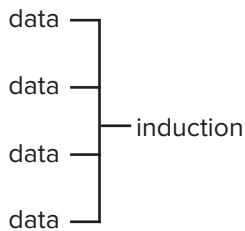
‘How often?’

‘Well, some hundreds of times.’

‘Then how many are there?’

‘How many! I don’t know.’

‘Quite so! You have not observed. And yet you have seen. That is just my point. Now, I know that there are seventeen steps, because I have both seen and observed.’” *–A Scandal in Bohemia*



“I have no data yet. It is a capital mistake to theorize before one has data. Insensibly one begins to twist facts to suit theories instead of theories to suit facts.”

–A Scandal in Bohemia

“The world is full of obvious things which nobody by any chance ever observes.”

–The Hound of the Baskervilles

—Insights from Sherlock Holmes

b. **Mark 10:23-31** NASB

²³ And Jesus, looking around, *said to His disciples, “How hard it will be for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God!”

²⁴ The disciples were amazed at His words. But Jesus *answered again and *said to them, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶ They were even more astonished and said to Him, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷ Looking at them, Jesus *said, “With people it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God.”

²⁸ Peter began to say to Him, “Behold, we have left everything and followed You.” ²⁹ Jesus said, “Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or farms, for My sake and for the gospel’s sake, ³⁰ but that he will receive a hundred times as much now in the present age, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and farms, along with persecutions; and in the age to come, eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last, first.”

- Key Words?
- Repeated Key Words?

Ⓞ Commands?

Ⓞ Rebukes?

Ⓞ Exhortation?

Ⓞ Exaggerations?

Ⓞ Promises?

Repeated Key Words: Observation

Hebrews 11:1-6

¹Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. ²This is what the ancients were commended for. ³By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

⁴By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead.

⁵By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.

⁶And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.