

Four Basic Principles for Bible Study

Step One:

Observation: What exactly does the passage say?

Careful (*exact details, thorough, precise*)

Systematic (*orderly such as: tree, limb, branch, twig, leaves*)

Persistent (*extended time, determined continuing*)

Step Two:

Interpretation: What does the passage literally mean?

The language gap (*original languages*)

The cultural gap (*each part of the Bible in its own time/era*)

The geographical gap (*Bible event locations*)

The historical gap (*historical background*)

Step Three:

Application: How does this truth relate to me?

Are there *examples* to follow?

Are there *commands* to obey?

Are there *errors* to avoid?

Are there *sins* to forsake?

Are there *promises* to claim?

Are there *new thoughts* about God?

Are there *principles* to live by?

Step Four:

Meditation: Focusing the mind on one subject

Involving Reason (*cause, motive, aim, purpose, think logically*)

Imagination (*mind's eye, head, thoughts*)

And Emotions

Excerpts taken from "Rediscovering Expository Preaching"
by Dr. John F. MacArthur

Four Basic Principles for Bible Study

Step One:

Observation: What exactly does the passage say?

Careful (*exact details, thorough, precise*)

Systematic (*orderly such as: tree, limb, branch, twig, leaves*)

Persistent (*extended time, determined continuing*)

Step Two:

Interpretation: What does the passage literally mean?

The language gap (*original languages*)

The cultural gap (*each part of the Bible in its own time/era*)

The geographical gap (*Bible event locations*)

The historical gap (*historical background*)

Step Three:

Application: How does this truth relate to me?

Are there *examples* to follow?

Are there *commands* to obey?

Are there *errors* to avoid?

Are there *sins* to forsake?

Are there *promises* to claim?

Are there *new thoughts* about God?

Are there *principles* to live by?

Step Four:

Meditation: Focusing the mind on one subject

Involving Reason (*cause, motive, aim, purpose, think logically*)

Imagination (*mind's eye, head, thoughts*)

And Emotions

Excerpts taken from "Rediscovering Expository Preaching"
by Dr. John F. MacArthur