

COMPREHENSION (What does the passage SAY?)

Context

What genre is this passage?

How do we think about this passage *differently* because of its genre?

When was it written and by whom?

To whom was it written and why?

What was happening historically?

Observations

- What comes before or after your immediate passage?**

- Define unknown words**

- Look up cross references or write down other passages that come to mind**

- #x Repetition of words: look for words/phrases that repeat (this often reveals a *theme*)**

- ? Questions: what doesn't make sense? surprises you?**

- CIRCLE Words/phrases referring to God's character or actions**

- CAPITAL words in the margin for attributes of God (use resource page)**

- UNDERLINE Words/phrases referring to humanity's character or actions**

- TRIANGLE Words/phrases that point to Jesus Christ and/or the gospel**

- BOX Conjunctions: terms that join units, like "and", "but", "therefore", etc. (Note what they are connecting)**
- # Contrasts: look for ideas/items that are side by side and different**
- || Comparisons: look for ideas/items that are side by side and similar**
- Figures of speech: expressions that convey an image, like metaphors, similes (draw pictures)**
- Pronouns: consider to whom is a pronoun referring**
- Lists: analyze how items in lists differ or relate to one another**
- C=>E Cause and effect: consider how ideas relate to one another**
- * Imperatives: direct commands or instructions**
- Verbs: note whether a verb is past, present, or future; active or passive**

INTERPRETATION (What does the passage *MEAN*?)

1. How does this passage fit into the metanarrative / point to the covenants of Scripture?

2. **What does the passage say about God** and what He did/is doing/will do?

3. What does the passage say about humanity and me in relation to God?

4. How does the passage point to Jesus Christ and/or the gospel?

5. What did the passage mean to the original audience?

6. Summarize the meaning in your own words (What is the main point for **us** today?):

APPLICATION (How does the passage *CHANGE* me?)

Reflect on and answer the following questions, keeping in mind that not ALL will be relevant. Also, remember to ask the Holy Spirit to use the passage to transform your heart and mind.

- How does this passage contribute to my understanding of God?

- What does this passage reveal about me, my present circumstances, or the world?

- How do the truths of the passage inspire me to worship, joy, or humility?

- What attitudes, behaviors, or roots of sin am I convicted of in my life?

- What practical steps can I take to live out the truths of this passage?

You can use this space to write a prayer that focuses on **worshiping** God for who he is, **confessing** of any sin the Spirit has brought to your attention, or **requesting** help from the Spirit to live out the passage.
