



peninsula
grace church

**Teaching Cohort
2026**

Bible Study Assignment #1
Passage: Isaiah 61

Complete Pages 1-4 by 6/24
Complete Pages 5-9 by 7/8

Step 1: Observation (20-30 minutes) - list at least 20 *observations* (something noted about the verse itself, not how it should be applied) *and* 20 *Interpretive Questions* (which, when I find the answers, will help me to understand and interpret the verse).

Observations	Interpretive Questions

Step 2: Interpretation

I) Context

- A) **Whole Book Context:** Read through or listen to the entire bible book of your passage. As you read, jot down answers to the following sets of questions.
- i) Remember, you're not trying to become an expert on the book, but you do want to try to get a general gist for the flow of thought and the big ideas the author emphasizes.
 - ii) After taking notes from your own reading, consult resources to compare insights
 - The Bible Project Bible Book Overview Videos
 - ESV Study Bible/esv.org
 - Commentary (For Isaiah see "The Prophecy of Isaiah" by Alec Motyer – the church has 2 copies)
 - How to Teach the Bible with Nancy Guthrie (podcast)
 - Spoken Gospel (Podcast/YouTube Overviews)

What is the purpose of the book? What is the main problem he seems to be addressing? What are the repeated themes/ideas in this book?

Notes from my own survey of the book:

Notes from resources

What is the plan or structure of the book? How does this passage fit into that structure?

B) **Immediate Context:** Take a closer look at the paragraphs immediately before and after your passage.

How does the immediate context of this passage help you understand its meaning?

- *How does my paragraph or story compare/contrast to the surrounding paragraphs or stories?*
- *What would be missing from this section of the book if my paragraph were not present?*
- *What is the author's flow of thought in the surrounding chapters? What is the structure of his argument?*

II) Figurative Language: List 4 instances of figurative language in Isaiah 61. For each example identify 1) what type of figurative language is being used and 2) what the author is emphasizing by employing this device.

A) Figure of Speech: _____

i) Type: _____

ii) Intended Emphasis:

B) Figure of Speech: _____

i) Type: _____

ii) Intended Emphasis:

C) Figure of Speech: _____

i) Type: _____

ii) Intended Emphasis:

D) Figure of Speech: _____

i) Type: _____

ii) Intended Emphasis:

III) Notes from Commentaries/Other Resources (focusing especially on answering your “Interpretive Questions” from Step 1)

IV) Structure & Synthesis

A) Using 2-7 main headings, outline the structure of the passage.

B) What might the structure of this passage indicate the author is trying to emphasize?

Step 3: Application and Meditation

- A) What gospel thread is standing out to you most? What words or phrases in this passage point to this theme of the gospel?
- B) Actively think about this word or phrase. Look at it from different angles. Meditation literally means to “gnaw” like a dog gnaws on a bone. How does this word/phrase make you feel? Why is it important? Write notes below.

- C) What next step is God asking you to take based on this passage?
- i) Is there a **sin** to confess or avoid?
 - ii) Is there a **promise** to claim?
 - iii) Is there an **example** to follow?
 - iv) Is there a **command** to obey?
 - v) Is there something to be **thankful** for?
 - vi) Is there something to learn (and praise) about **God**?
 - vii) Is there an action to take? A thought or belief or attitude to correct?
 - viii) What does this passage demand of me?
 - ix) How does this passage change the way I relate to other people?
 - x) How does this passage prompt me to pray?