

Re-Fuel: THE WORD Week1

7-DAY BIBLE STUDY CHALLENGE: OBSERVATION - WHAT DOES IT SAY?

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness.” 2 Timothy 3:16 CSB

THIS WEEK'S GOAL

For the next seven days, we're practicing one skill: SLOW DOWN AND LOOK.

Don't begin by asking: "What does this mean to me?"

Don't immediately ask: "How does this apply to my life?"

Those questions are coming.

This week, ask: "WHAT DOES THE TEXT ACTUALLY SAY?"

Your challenge is to make at least 10 observations every day.

WHAT SHOULD I LOOK FOR?

PEOPLE — Who is involved?

PLACES — Where does this happen?

ACTIONS — What happens? Who does what?

REPETITION — What words, phrases, or ideas repeat?

QUESTIONS — Who asks them? Who answers?

COMMANDS — Is someone told to do something?

CONTRASTS — What people, actions, or ideas differ?

CAUSE & EFFECT — Does one action lead to another?

CONNECTING WORDS — Look for but, because, so, then, therefore, for.

CHANGES — What is different at the end?

SURPRISES — What seems unexpected?

ONE IMPORTANT RULE: If you find yourself saying: "I think this means..."

STOP!

Write the question down instead. We'll work on interpretation next week.

DAY 1 – LUKE 5:1-11 JESUS CALLS THE FISHERMEN

Read the passage slowly at least twice

MY OBSERVATIONS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

A QUESTION I HAVE ABOUT THE TEXT:

DAY 2 – MARK 4:35-41 JESUS CALMS THE STORM

Read once to understand the story. Read again slowly to observe the details.

MY OBSERVATIONS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

SOMETHING THAT SURPRISED ME:

A QUESTION I HAVE:

DAY 3 — LUKE 10:25-37 THE GOOD SAMARITAN

This is a familiar story. Be careful! Don't assume you already know what the text says. Look at it again.

MY OBSERVATIONS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

WHAT QUESTIONS ARE ASKED IN THIS PASSAGE?

WHAT CONTRASTS DO I SEE?

A QUESTION I HAVE:

DAY 4 — JOHN 5:1-15 JESUS HEALS AT BETHESDA

MY OBSERVATIONS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

WHAT QUESTIONS ARE ASKED?

WHAT COMMANDS ARE GIVEN?

WHAT CHANGES FROM THE BEGINNING TO THE END?

DAY 5 — MARK 10:46-52 BLIND BARTIMAEUS

MY OBSERVATIONS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

WHAT WORDS, ACTIONS, OR IDEAS REPEAT?

HOW DO DIFFERENT PEOPLE RESPOND TO BARTIMAEUS?

WHAT IS DIFFERENT AT THE END OF THE PASSAGE?

DAY 6 — LUKE 19:1-10 ZACCHAEUS

MY OBSERVATIONS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

WHAT CHANGES IN ZACCHAEUS DURING THE PASSAGE?

WHAT REACTIONS OR CONTRASTS DO I NOTICE?

DAY 7 — JOHN 13:1-17 JESUS WASHES THE DISCIPLES' FEET

For your final day, see how much you can discover without extra prompts.

MY OBSERVATIONS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

BEFORE NEXT RE-FUEL

Look back over all 70+ observations you've made this week.

WHICH PASSAGE WAS EASIEST FOR ME TO OBSERVE? WHY?

WHICH PASSAGE WAS MOST DIFFICULT?

WHAT DID I BEGIN NOTICING THAT I NORMALLY READ PAST?

DID SLOWING DOWN CHANGE THE WAY I READ SCRIPTURE?

MY BIGGEST QUESTION:

Choose one question from your week that you really want to understand.

BUT DON'T ANSWER IT YET!

Bring it with you next Wednesday.

Your observations have given you the evidence.

Now we're going to learn what to do with that evidence.

NEXT WEEK:

INTERPRETATION — WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

We'll learn to examine:

CONTEXT - What surrounds the passage?

AUTHOR - Who wrote it?

AUDIENCE - Who originally received it?

HISTORY - What was happening?

GENRE - What kind of biblical writing is this?

WORDS - What did the author actually communicate?

SCRIPTURE - How does this fit with the rest of the Bible?

OBSERVATION ASKS: What does it say?

INTERPRETATION ASKS: What does it mean?

APPLICATION ASKS: What should I do?

Don't rush the process.

1. Slow down.
2. Look carefully.
3. Ask questions.
4. Stay in the text.

The goal isn't to see something nobody else has ever seen.

The goal is to see faithfully what God has actually given us in His Word.

Re-Fuel: Get Filled. Grow Deeper. Live Stronger.

