



Observation, Interpretation, & Application: The 3-Step Bible Study Process

This week, we are putting together all three aspects of studying God's Word. All Bible study should start with the practice of Observation. Bible readers must slow down enough to discern key information about the text including its authorship, audience, context, genre, and content. Interpreting Scripture involves discerning the grander themes of the text. Scripture bears witness to the character of God, the path of salvation, the kingdom of Heaven, and more. These themes and interpretations lead us to faithful and God-honoring application of God's Word. Through the application of God's Word our minds are transformed as we are led to live as Christ lived in community with the believers around us.

Observation Questions:

- Who wrote this text? To whom was this text intended? When and where are these events taking place? What is the genre of the text?
- What words, ideas, or phrases are repeated or emphasized?
- What event is being narrated? What problem is being addressed? What questions are being asked?

Interpretation Questions:

- What did the author intend for the readers to understand? Why was this message significant? How do these ideas manifest themselves in our context?
- What does the text reveal about God's character? What does the text reveal about humanity, sin, salvation, or redemption?
- How does this text tie into the larger narrative of the Bible?

Application Questions:

- How does this text challenge my beliefs? What thoughts or feelings do I have that are not aligned with this truth about God?
- Is there a command from God relevant to me today? Is there a sin I am being led to confess? Is there an example of Christian living that I am called to emulate?
- What specific steps will I take to live this out? Who can join me in this application of God's Word? How can I rely on God's strength and not just my own?

Date	Reading
July 26th	Isaiah 40-43
July 27th	Isaiah 44-48
July 28th	2 Kings 19; Psalm 46, 80, 135
July 29th	Isaiah 49-53
July 30th	Isaiah 54-58
July 31st	Isaiah 59-63
August 1st	Isaiah 64-66