

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

THE DIRECT BIBLE STUDY METHOD
WITH OSCAR EVANS



THREE GOALS OF THIS STUDY

- 1) Become a better **Observer** of the scripture.
- 2) Acquire **Interpretive** study skills that will help us get a better understanding of a Biblical text; and
- 3) Most importantly know how to find a truer sense of the Bible's **Application** for our own lives.

Benefit of this Study

Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

“And Philip ran thither to him,
and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said,
Understandest thou what thou readest?”

And he said, How can I,
except some man should guide me?
And he desired Philip
that he would come up and sit with him.”

Acts 8:30 – 31

CONTEXT

Principle 2:

Interpretations must be done
in the context of the passage.

From Bible.Org Principles of Biblical Interpretation

What does a text mean?

The answer to this question is
that a text means what the author intended it to mean.

CONTEXT PRINCIPLES

1) Move from broad to specific.

Forest

Trees

Branches

Leaves

THE FOREST – THE TREES – THE BRANCHES – THE LEAVES

- The Books of the Law (Genesis – Deuteronomy)
- The Books of History (Joshua – Esther)
- The Poetry Books (Job – Songs of Solomon)
- The Prophets (Isaiah - Malachi)
- The Gospels (Matthew – John) *Luke - Acts
- The Letters (Romans – Jude)
- The Apocalyptic Book (Revelation)

CONTEXT PRINCIPLES

2) Keep the writer's point of view in the forefront.

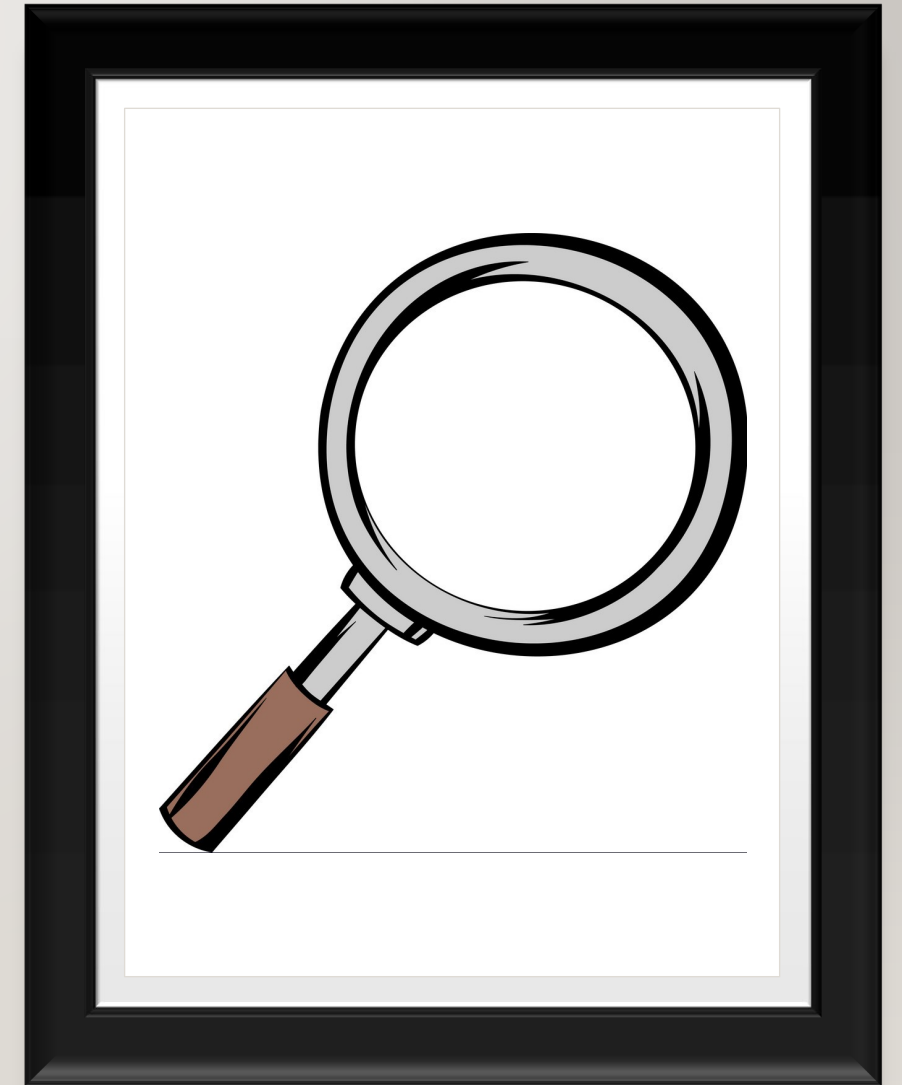
“...For even the Son of Man came
not to be served
but
to serve others
and
to give his life
as a ransom for many.”
(Mark 10:45)



OBSERVATION

INQUIRING QUESTIONS

- I kept six honest fighting men,
They taught me all I knew;
Their names were What and Why and When,
And How and Where and Who.
- Rudyard Kipling



INVESTIGATIVE QUESTION 1: WHO?

THE WHO
QUESTION ASKS
ABOUT THE
PEOPLE IN OR
BEHIND THE
TEXT.



JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYTIC

- 1 And again He entered Capernaum after *some* days, and it was heard that He was in the house.
- 2 Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive *them*, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them.
- 3 Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by *four men*.



JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYTIC

- 4 And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying.
- 5 When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven you.”



JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYTIC

- 6 And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts,
- 7 “Why does this *Man* speak blasphemies like this?
Who can forgive sins but God alone?”
- 8 But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, “Why do you reason about these things in your hearts?”



JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYTIC

- 9 Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘*Your sins are forgiven you,*’ or to say, ‘Arise, take up your bed and walk’?
- 10 But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins”—He said to the paralytic,
- 11 “I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.”



JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYTIC

- 12 Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw *anything* like this!”



INVESTIGATIVE QUESTION 2: WHAT?

THE WHAT
QUESTION ASKS
ABOUT THE
IDENTIFICATION
OR DEFINITION
OF SOME
MATTER IN THE
TEXT.