

Lesson #3: Overview of Discovery/Inductive Bible Study Method

Take attendance, assign Ray to care for students missing a session & pray for one another – 5 mins.

Praise and Worship of the day – **Play video – 7 mins.
Crown Him With Many Crowns**

Rev 19:11 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. 13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. 14 The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. 16 On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.
NIV

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n1M6L0hE9K0>

Our Daily Bread – Freedom at Alcatraz -- **Play audio – 8 mins.**

<http://odb.org/2011/01/15/freedom-at-alcatraz/>

Lesson of the Day – Overview of Discovery/Inductive Bible Study Method – 30 min

Teaser – Summary of Inductive Bible Study Method

Start by asking questions. **Why is asking question preferable to just telling the answer right away?**

(1) "What do I see?". This is the Observation (? ?) process. It's like a careful **detective going back to a crime scene** (no intention to imply the Bible as a crime scene!) **picking up more clues missed the first time.** To bring out the relationship with God in the Bible exploration process, it's like reading a lover's (God) **love letter the 2nd time, the 3rd time and 4th time ... and each time picking up more subtle expressions of love.** That's why observation is such a **fun, personal and important** step in Bible study.

- **Get the big picture** by reading a passage or chapter being studied quickly
- Read what's immediately before and after the passage you are studying – **context**.
- Underline the **key words** – repeated and anything you think is important
- Select the **most important words**

- Look for **admonitions** and **reasons**, use of **questions, contrasts, comparisons, illustrations**, key **connectives** (circle these), **repetition** of ideas, **emphatic statements**.

(2) Then based on the clue picked up, we ask "**What does it mean then?**". **This is the Interpretation (? ? / ? ?) process.** Some answers might be found in the clues picked up in the observation process and others (historical, cultural, economical, geographical, etc.) need more research and study with a **humble prayerful heart**. Here good Bible commentaries and other Bible study tools (Concordance, Bible Dictionary, Bible Encyclopedia, etc.) would help but **be sure we understand the view** and ask if that is **truly Biblically based** and **theologically sound** before accepting that as a good and strong interpretation. **Leave room for more insight** or a different and more sound view later.

(3) Next ask "**Where does it fit? What does it mean now?**". **This is the Correlation (? ?) process.** This is the process to correctly relate Biblical data to our contemporary life.

(4) Lastly, and most critically, we ask "**Does it work?**". **This is the Application (? ?) process.** **As my DTS Bible Study Methods and Hermeneutics professor Dr. Howard Hendricks said, "Observation plus Interpretation without Application is ABORTION!"** God wants us to **not only increase in head knowledge but also to change our heart** (attitude, will) which would lead to **transformed life** for God's glory in action with our **body. (Matthew 22:34-40, 2Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 4:12-13)**

To help think with application, write Out **Specific Action-Responses – SPECS**

Sin to be forsaken
Promise to be claimed
Example to be followed
Command to be obeyed
Stumbling block or hindrance to be avoided

Homework of the day – Practice Using Discovery/Inductive Bible Study Method -- 30 mins. -- Psalm 119:17-24

"C. *Appreciation of God's Word (119:17-24)*

119:17-24. The psalmist asked God to **open his eyes** so that he could **see** the marvelous blessings of God in the **Word** (vv. 17-18). He hungered for the Word (vv. 19-20). Because God curses the wicked who disobey Him, he prayed that the Lord would **remove** those who reproached him. In contrast with them, he meditated on and delighted in God's **Law** (vv. 21-24). Frequently in this psalm he referred to the wicked and those who oppressed him (vv. 23, 53, 61, 69-70, 78, 85-87, 95, 110, 115, 119, 122, 134, 155, 157-158, 161)." ¹

vv. verses

¹Walvoord, J. F., Zuck, R. B., & Dallas Theological Seminary. (1983-c1985). *The Bible knowledge commentary : An exposition of the scriptures* (1:880). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.