

Principles of Bible Study Observation



Entering the Text

Be open

Be flexible

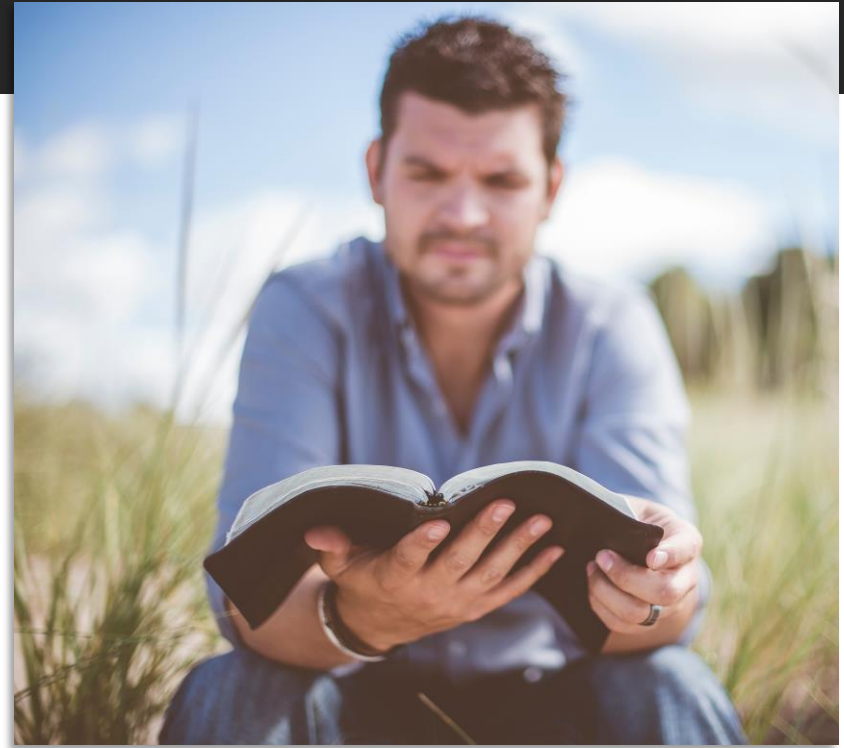
Be curious

Be expectant

Observe everything carefully

Don't make quick judgments

Ask lots of questions



Entering the Text

Be Expectant

- Expect to work with the Holy Spirit
- Be ready for a journey – the full process
- Be a seeker of truth, be hungry to learn, grow, and discover new things about yourself and the kingdom
- Come to the Word open, ready to change

Entering the Text

Be Honest

- Be honest with God, confess your faults, your struggles, and your weaknesses
- Approach the text without reservation, judgment, bias, or preconceived ideas
- Build truth upon truth, Scripture upon Scripture

Entering the Text

Read the Text Carefully

- Initial questions to ask – Who, what, where, when and how?
- Get the there and then before the here and now
- Orient yourself correctly to the text – context, history, culture, genre, audience, author, purpose

Entering the Text

Relive the Text

- Use your imagination – this is one of the most powerful and un-used tools we have at our disposal
- Become part of the story, put yourself in the narrative, relive the events through imagination, journaling, discussion, available media
- Feel the emotion, experience the events, engage with the characters