

HERMENEUTICS YOU CAN HANDLE



*A Simple Guide to Fulfill Your Conviction to Study
to Show Yourself Approved*

*by
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Scripture quotes are taken from the Amplified Bible, Classic Edition
and the King James Version unless otherwise noted.

A special invitation and challenge are given to you who may think the Great Commission is just too great a cost to live out. Your God-given gifts and calling, coupled with the understanding of your honest, heartfelt questions, fears and doubts have provoked the creation of this work.

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Note: The word, Truth, appears capitalized. This emphasis is meant to provoke the recognition that Truth is a Person, both our Holy Spirit and Messiah Jesus, **I John 5:6b** and **John 14:6**. It is hoped that seeing it in this context will teach a lesson of its own. The word, Church, also appears capitalized to elevate its apostate reputation in light of its divine value in the sight of the Father whose redemptive plan will be completed through it...and in spite of it.

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BASIC HERMENEUTICS TO ADVANCE PERCEIVING AND DEVELOP ACCOUNTABILITY

The Mandate for All Believers

II TIMOTHY 2:15 AMP STUDY AND BE EAGER AND DO YOUR UTMOST TO PRESENT YOURSELF TO GOD APPROVED (TESTED BY TRIAL), A WORKMAN WHO HAS NO CAUSE TO BE ASHAMED, CORRECTLY ANALYZING AND ACCURATELY DIVIDING (RIGHTLY HANDLING AND SKILLFULLY TEACHING) THE WORD OF TRUTH.

The word **study**, in Greek, *spoudazo*, means, with all your might, great in effort with speed. The words **dividing rightly** in Greek, *orthotomeo*, means, a single surgical slice; non-varied.

If there is one common area most believers feel exceptionally weak in, it is the area of studying to show yourself approved. The plan is that this lesson will release you into a new dimension and relationship with the Word of God and to be able to present yourself to God (not man) approved and as a workman. All believers, especially prophetic voices who are serious about serving the Lord day by day with excellence, must be actively involved in handling the Word of God consistently and accurately.

- ❖ The Holy Spirit wants to be able to bring the Word of God to your remembrance and to also draw on the Word that is in you. How much scripture is in you? Most believers in all Christian circles have depended upon their leadership for all their interaction with the Bible. About 90% of believers follow other people's convictions and theology. Believers are not accustomed to rightly dividing the Word of God on their own. Many in the body of Christ who have studied on their own have built their theology on one book of the Bible, one verse, one theme or one context. Believers in general are not doctrine oriented.

Psalms 103:7 describes a condition believer have in common with Israel...it says that Israel knew God's **acts**, but God showed Moses His **ways**. When you have an intimate relationship with the Lord and you rightly divide the Word of Truth for yourself, you will learn God's ways. Prophetic believers who pursue the spiritual gifts of **I Corinthians 12** have been rightly accused of the lack of practice of sound hermeneutics in their ministry. As a result, benevolent and unbenevolent critics have had to point out many instances of error when substantiation of the Word and intimate relationship has been ignored for the sake of supernatural experiences resulting in many believers being deceived. Hence, the gift-bearing arm of the body of Christ is weakened and ignored.

Understanding Hermeneutics Establishes and Releases the Word of God

Biblical hermeneutics is the art and science of interpreting scripture. This science involves critical analysis or interpretation of a biblical word, text or passage, using the principles of biblical exegesis. The process of hermeneutics is based on observation, interpretation and application. A paraphrased meaning of hermeneutics is asking the question, "What is the point?"

Exegesis – Greek means: Explanation, to lead out, to lift out; **to perceive**.

Exegesis is a tool of observation. It is finding out what the text **originally meant** to discover the author's meaning to clarify one's own belief and to be able to communicate that Truth to others. Another descriptive term to understand exegesis is **inductive reasoning**, which means to simply go into the text and bring out what the Holy Spirit meant when He gave it to the writer, then draw a conclusion from those particular facts.

Eisegesis – Greek means: To put in.

This process assumes a preconceived mindset, which explains the activity of how false interpretation and perception occurs resulting in false doctrine, cults and false teaching. Another descriptive term to understand eisegesis is **deductive reasoning**, which first assumes something and then goes about proving it. **Example:** Snake handlers.

Exposition means: A discourse or an example designed to convey information; teaching, preaching, sharing; to explain what is difficult to understand. Exposition is a tool of interpretation. It is extended development of scripture that takes the meaning from exegesis and develops it into illustrations, moral Truth, teaching and preaching of application. Exposition will use multiple scriptures for comparison and contrast for understanding.

What is Studying to Show Yourself Approved? TIME + TECHNIQUE = STUDY

Bible study is work and is not accomplished by daily devotional reading alone but must be done systematically. Bible study is a skill you develop over a lifetime. Don't condemn yourself about past failure, just start where you are right now and move forward. The elements of studying to show yourself approved are: **TIME + TECHNIQUE = STUDY**.

Study is not just a form of discipline and research - it is also a form of worship. Study will lead to the ultimate act of humbly submitting to the Father, likened to intimately prostrating yourself before Him. Add studying scripture to the ways in which you worship...the work of study will go easier.

Who God Will Show Truth To and Who Will Understand It

These qualities are necessary to receive and understand Truth. These are the ones to whom God shows His Truths. Is this you? Which one is the strongest? Which is the weakest?

1. A **new heart**, **I Corinthians 2:14**
2. A **hungry heart**, **I Peter 2:2**
3. A **disciplined heart**, **Matthew 7:7**
4. A **teachable heart**, **Isaiah 50:4**
5. An **obedient heart**, **Psalms 119:98-100**. The Bible calls for a response of obedience not just analysis. A right heart attitude is necessary, not a perfect record of actions or good works.

Necessary Basic Convictions About the Word of God Needed for Sound Hermeneutics

The **logos**, the Bible, is a supernatural book; it is a closed canon of 66 books. Today, many people believe the Word is not valid or infallible, making the Bible an open canon. God has made His Word a legal document in the heavenlies and on earth to be taken literally. God's Kingdom is run by His Word on earth and in heaven! When the Word of God is watered down the door is opened to deception. Ultimately the message of the Gospel is watered down. Few denominations and Churches hold firm to the infallibility, inerrancy and inspiration of the Word to their present and future shame.

The following definitions and characteristics of the Word of God are the critical essentials of the believer's belief system.

- ❖ **Infallible** – Absolutely trustworthy and sure; incapable of failure.
- ❖ **Inerrant** – Absolute Truth without a mixture of error. This does not mean everything is clear; all is Truth but not all is God’s will. **Example:** sin, Satan, idolatry, adultery, etc.
- ❖ **Inspiration** – To breathe, blow into or upon; to infuse by breathing; to influence, move, guide or communicate by divine, supernatural intervention to an agent.
- ❖ **Heresy** – Denial of a revealed Truth; an opinion, doctrine or practice contrary to the Truth.

You Can Trust the Infallible and Inerrant Word of God

God authored and directly guided and controlled man to scribe His words, **II Timothy 3:16-17, II Peter 1:20-21**. Logically, the one behind the writing of scripture is greater than the ones who wrote it. The Writer is perfect...the writers were not. Because God Himself is entirely perfect, one can know that on purpose, **for His own glory**, not ours, all of His Word to us must also be entirely perfect and free from error. His very breath is on each page. The intent, force and fruit of His words cannot be changed, thwarted or destroyed by man nor institution, **Isaiah 40:6-8, Matthew 24:35**.

Jesus, the Word, **John 1:1**, believed the inerrancy of scripture; every “**jot and tittle**” of the Word, **Matthew 5:18**. He spoke of the validity of the events when Jonah was in the belly of the great fish for three days and nights confirming details of His destiny, **Matthew 12:40**. His words, “**It is written,**” ring loudly and militantly to the power of the Word, **Matthew 4:4**.

Elementary Characteristics of the Scriptures

- ❖ The Bible is non-negotiable. It is a closed canon; nothing is to be added or deleted.
- ❖ The O.T. and N.T. is one book; the whole Word of God is in force. The O.T. is the N.T. concealed; the N.T. is the O.T. revealed.
- ❖ The Bible contains no contradictions; go to scripture to interpret scripture. The Bible is its own interpreter; go to the clear to interpret the cloudy. The Bible does not speak its mind on a subject all in one place.
- ❖ The Word of God does not represent a democracy, but a monarchy, a benevolent Dictatorship.
- ❖ The divine instructions of both the N.T. and the O.T. are in force today. The N.T. reframes the divine instructions and administration of the O.T. **Torah**.
- ❖ Scripture can be adequately understood from current translations. Not all are ideal.
- ❖ The Word says what it means and means what it says. Perceived differences do not mean unredeemable contradictions, but simple, different observations and diversity in recording.
- ❖ Revelation is progressive, leading up to the final revelation of the Messiah, the Lord Jesus of Nazareth. The O.T. reveals only types and shadows. The N.T. establishes the **manifested reality** of the types and shadows. Look at every page of the O.T. to reveal a form of the thread of redemption that only comes to pass through the Son of God and son of man, Messiah Jesus.
- ❖ Science, archeology, world history and all the words written in the Bible each tell the same story. Our creator has made it so that all things on this earth are coordinated by perfectly

and accurately explaining the same Truths from these four angles. When discoveries are made, all of these avenues must be able to prove the Bible is inerrant and infallible. **Example:** Today, nothing in archeological findings is disproving the Bible. Proof after proof testifies that the Bible is the final standard of Truth. Watch for what is dug up tomorrow! It is not just an old book! Research and growing fields of knowledge and deeper levels of discovery reveal the Bible is, in fact and accuracy, a perfect, scientific, historical, mathematical and hermeneutical work.

The Bible is the most accurate, provable account of history known to man. History is a theological story, written down and prophetically spoken by the Father before the foundation of the world. Throughout the Word of God, biblical prophecy has predicted world history. The all-seeing, all-knowing Creator has declared the end from the beginning, **Isaiah 46:9-10!** Fulfilled prophecy is what makes the Bible the Bible. Two-thirds of the Word of God is fulfilled prophecy. He has performed His Word and He will continue to perform His Word, **Isaiah 55:11,14:24, Ezekiel 12:25, I Kings 8:56, Habakkuk 2:3, Psalm 19:7-10.**

- ❖ Scripture speaks of future events as if they have already taken place. The original Hebrew knows no absolute tense of time. Written in the perfect tense, words speak of an action that have been completed, thus they are perfect. Grasping the past tense victory of scripture destroys trying, performing and searching for worth and love. Live in the perfect tense of the Word of God, not the imperfect tense of the world. **Example: “I have been crucified with Christ...”**
- ❖ The proof of biblical perfection is established in the evidence of prophetic accuracy. Each and every one of the prophetic predictions have come to pass 100%, proving the Father’s existence, omniscience, trustworthiness, love and eternal plan The purpose is to make mankind accountable...watch out, no one can ever say He did not reveal His plan and heart.
- ❖ Fulfilled prophecy has impacted universal influence, releasing radical historical change through the centuries. Very few unfulfilled prophecies have yet to come to pass. No other “bible,” book of Mormon, the Koran, etc., has a track record of 100% fulfilled prophecies, not one.
- ❖ The Bible contains **all** the revelation the Father has intended to give to man. There is no new revelation, just new illumination on a revelation. If a revelation is true, it is not new. If it is a “new” revelation, it is not true. One must be a believer and taught by the Holy Spirit to fully understand.
- ❖ Seek illumination on revelation. Illumination is fresh LIGHT and deeper insight on revelation that comes to a believer whose understanding and will is directly illuminated by the mind of Christ via the Holy Spirit.

Because you can trust the Bible about the past, you can trust the Bible about the future! Believers have no need to fear the future...Jesus of Nazareth, the Risen One, is coming soon, just as He predicted He would! Fulfilled prophecies force accountability onto believers and unbelievers to know and accept that His written, **logos** Word is infallible, inerrant and divine. As you learn better to study to show yourself to be approved, be encouraged - you are handling that which has been perfectly constructed.

The Science of Mathematics Proves There is One Supernatural Author

Mathematics can prove that the Father used 66 inspired writers to hear and scribe His Word. The realm of mathematics, including all the sciences, astronomy, biology, anatomy, physics, quantum physics, archeology and all the others are now arriving at amazing facts and proofs of the inspiration, the infallibility and the inerrancy of the Word of God. Evidence of the Bible proving science and science proving the Bible is being observed and recorded day by day by honored, technical professionals. **Example:** Probability computers estimate that if a prophecy concerning a person, place or event has 25 details, mathematically, there is one in over 3.3 million chance of its **accidental** fulfillment. Such prophecy must also be:

- ❖ Above possibility of human collusion. Beyond the ability of human calculation.
- ❖ Proof against human coincidence. Above all possibility of human comprehension.

The age of scientific dictatorship is crumbling under its own demanding scrutiny. **More examples of mathematical probability:** The odds of **300** Messianic prophecies perfectly coming to pass are astronomical. The probability of only eight of the most impossible Messianic predictions coming to pass, are one in 100,000,000,000,000,000 to the 3rd power. These eight prophecies and every one of the others have also literally come to pass.

Consider also, the 25 details concerning the trial, death and burial of our Lord Jesus were fulfilled within 24 hours! When 17 specific O.T. prophecies about the Messiah are considered, the odds of any one person fulfilling these 17 predictions by chance alone are absolutely astronomical. The mathematical odds against the O.T. prophets correctly guessing all 17 prophecies are: 1 CHANCE IN 480 BILLION X 1 BILLION X 1 TRILLION!

The Laws of Probability reveal and prove the infallibility, inerrancy and authority of the Bible and under the awesome inspiration of our Loving Father! The Bible has been numerically constructed by **THE Master Mathematician**. Testing proves it to be statistically perfect! Check it out! Find a historical prophecy in the Word of God and prove it is false – you will not be able to prove it or any other historical prophecy false. Probability establishes that because one point in the Word of God is true, then all the Word of God is true. **Mathematical research proves established revelation!**

- ❖ Sadly, one can ingest the wonder of God-breathed fulfilled prophecy, mathematical, scientific and statistical perfection and still not accept Truth. The problem: The Word of God, the **logos**, must be mixed with faith, **rhema**, in order for true comprehension and redeeming exchange, **Hebrews 4:2**. The Word must be **spiritually** discerned. **I Corinthians 2:14** and **Romans 8:7** say that those who are in the flesh, having a carnal mind, cannot please God. Those not being Spirit to spirit with Him, do not accept what comes from the Spirit of God or His Word. Facts and proofs are foolishness to them because they are unable to spiritually perceive it. When personal doctrines do not lead you to holiness and obedience, it is toxic and becomes destructive.

The encouragement is, **“The entrance of God’s Word brings Light to the simple,” Psalm 119:130**. The ancient Word of God is more than ink on paper! The Word of God, mixed with faith, releases spiritual power of transformation creating LIGHT and TRUTH in the life of an unbelieving person. The most hard-hearted, deceived and ignorant scoffer can change! An amazing scientific book to check out that reveals and marries scripture with science is **“Quantum Glory”** by Phil Mason. It technically explains being in tune with the Bible reveals the most provable scientific information available on earth.

- ❖ **The final reality you can trust is:** If one thing is true in the Word of God, all of the Word of God is true. If one thing in the Word of God is not true, none of it is true. Scripture warns: **The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the Word of God shall stand forever, Isaiah 40:8.** Jesus' testimony solidifies the unchanging Truth of scripture He fulfilled coming to pass. **"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away," Matthew 24:35.**

Perceive How We are Surrounded by Resident Sound Waves of the Very Voice of Our Creator

Finally, consider the meaning of Jesus saying in **Luke 19:40, Habakkuk 2:11, "The stones will cry out."** All of creation, animal, vegetable and mineral, contains sound waves that can be recorded. The sound waves in everything, including us, including rocks, has come from the sound of the Creator's voice! A recent scientific experiment revealed that the Hebrew language, when spoken through a sound machine into a box of sand, the stylus formed the Hebrew letters in the sand. Other languages did not. Why? The source of the sound of this spoken holy language originated from words spoken in Hebrew by the supernatural voice of God. He spoke out loud bringing all things into existence, **Psalms 33:9, Hebrews 11:13.** The sound waves of our Creator's voice are locked in everything, everywhere. The words given to the 66 writers of scripture housed the supernatural, creative power of the very sound of His voice. Words did not come by their will, but as the writers were moved by the Holy Spirit, **I Peter 1:20-21.** Value your Bible more!

Are You a Passive, Sleepy Reader and User of the Word? Find Out Why

As a layman or leader, why are you not involved in reading and studying the Word? Why you don't read, understand or accept the Bible? Why you think it is only for others and not for you? Watch out! When you do not live up to what you say you believe, teach or preach, soon you will not be using the Word of God at all. Check any points that describes why you are not a reader and user of the Word of God.

- You have not been taught study skills; only what to think and not how to think. This lesson should help.
- You are just plain lazy and unwilling to put forth any effort to read and study.
- You carnally believe you are exempt and do not need to use the Word of God in your life. You are unwilling to yield to being accountable to scripture - to personally obey. You are a "hearer only." Because of your carnal, natural man attitude, you are literally unable to discern the spiritual.
- The things of the Spirit of God are foolishness and boring to you, **I Corinthians 2:14, Romans 8:7.** Did lies, deception or hope deferred make your heart so sick you closed yourself off from the Word?
- Living in your flesh makes you feel you cannot do everything needed to live up to the standard of scripture. Refusing to take scripture literally makes your way the standard.
- You read the Bible in the flesh/sin with condemnation, unbelief or worldly sorrow over being a victim, scoffing, etc. The enemy is then free to capture your will.
- You have intellectual skepticism about the Word of God. Be warned: Scriptures you have trouble with, especially the don'ts are guaranteed to happen to you. You do not have a grasp of God's sovereignty and supernatural spiritual realm except for evil supernatural realm and spirituality.

It would be wise for such a person to get to the bottom of what or who smothered, suppressed and disconnected them from the Truth and liberty of the Word of God. Be warned: His Truth cannot turn into a lie. Your lie cannot turn into Truth.

**THE ANTIDOTE: JUST DO IT!
IF YOU WANT TO BE CURED YOU MUST CHOOSE TO GET INTO THE WORD AND STAY THERE**

Suggestions:

- ❖ If you do not read at all, begin reading the most familiar portions of the Bible **out loud**.
- ❖ As you read, underline the parts that “pop out” at you.
- ❖ After you have a habit of underlining, begin to look up the cross-reference notes. Do you have a study Bible?
- ❖ Next, get a notebook to write proclamations to yourself and to do Devotionals and Exegesis. Just do it...time is fleeting.

READ THE WORD OUT OF FEAR = FEAR READ THE WORD OUT OF DUTY = NOTHING

Unbelievers have the luxury that Bible-believing people cannot afford. Those who ignore the claims of Jesus, the Messiah and the Word of God are free to form their own opinions on everything they can create. They have their own “homemade” value system and revise it as often as they need or want. Usually, these critics have never personally read the entire Bible. They are free to accept, reject and speculate simply on the basis of what seems right to them at the time. If you believe only what you like in the Word of God and reject what you do not like, it is not the Word you believe, but yourself.

For the realization that the Word of God is inspired and infallible, the unbeliever or the believer in unbelief must personally handle, see and hear the witness of the whole counsel of the Word of God, especially the New Testament testimony of Jesus. This is not how you, a true believer is to live. You are to live by every word that proceeds (or has proceeded) out of the mouth of God. **The Word stands, you are standing next to it.** Does this describe you? ___Y ___N

Do you do need to change something about your relationship with the Word of God? ___Y ___N Honestly ask yourself: Do I **need** to read and study the Word of God? ___Y ___N **The Truth is you have done and can do anything you truly need to do.** This lesson will help you get a fresh start and start over. Is it not true that whatever you truly need to do, you always find a way to do it even if you have to militantly force yourself to do it? **Matthew 11:12b** says that the violent take it by force. This means that using your energy or “violence” will enable you to do anything and everything you need to do.

The question to ask yourself is, “**Do I need to read and study the Word of God?**” If you are convicted that you need to read and study the Word of God, then take it by force over your passivity and your stubborn will. It is the same conviction you need to use to energetically and violently accomplish other demanding things you need to do, right? Remember, one way to be freshly inspired is to **read out loud**, it will produce a personal revival leading you to be genuinely moved. From there, get busy in studying systematically.

Honestly, Now Can You Say These Statements Are Your Convictions?

- ___Y ___N The whole Bible is a book of absolutes; it is **infallible** in areas of morals and faith.
- ___Y ___N It is **inerrant** regarding historical and factual matters of scripture.
- ___Y ___N All scripture is given by **inspiration** from God, not the will of men, **II Timothy 3:16**.
- ___Y ___N The Word of God is a book of prophecies telling the end from the beginning.

Y N The Word of God is likened to the Supreme Court – the final answer in all things.

ASSIGNMENT – Carry Your Bible Week – The Enemies of God Will Hate to See You Do This!

1. You Have a Bible, Does Your Bible Have You? For the next week you are to have a physical Bible close by you, everywhere you go. The purpose of this **physical contact exercise** is to help make you more personally connected to the Word of God and to develop a greater and more literal sense of gratefulness of the supernatural connection you have with the Word of God during this lesson. At first expect to feel resistance, for it to be a cumbersome thing. Expect a deeper realization of how unique you are in this world of having a Bible within your arm's reach 24/7. Put your hand on the Bible often. See your Bible in the Spirit, picture **John 1:1**; Jesus is the Word, the Word is Him, a person dwelling in you. Your life lives in and out of both **logos**, the written Word...and **rhema**, Him the revealed Word.

Directions and Ideas: Have a physical Bible within your sight as much as possible during this next week. Use more than one Bible. You may choose to carry a pocket-type Bible. An electronic Bible on your phone is ideal but does not fulfill the point of having physical contact the Word. Check your bookshelves! Choose a Bible to put in your car, have one next to your bed or other rooms in your house. Carry one to Church! Prepare to share your experience in class.

2. Observe yourself all week. At the end of the week ask: Did I think and act more biblically this week? Y N

3. Read Psalm 119. Do you have a spiritual connection and response to the Word of God as it is presented in this **Psalm**? Y N If not, inevitably it will come with more reading and studying!

Getting Started in Experiencing the Art and Science of Hermeneutics – Use the Right Tools

This lesson is constructed to help you spiritually grow and change as you practice the skills of mixing your faith with the Word through hands-on, practical assignments. A disciplined approach to the handling of scripture needs to be learned and practiced. Using effective tools, aids and resources are mandatory in order to be able to rightly divide the Word of Truth. The right tools make your study a labor of love and an effective work. Begin with setting up a permanent study station with all the tools necessary. A desk with a good lamp and chair is ideal.

Do you have access to the necessary tools for study? Books are still in! Check the reference books you may need to acquire. All are available online as well.

- Study Bibles; King James Version, Amplified, other translations and paraphrases
- Exhaustive concordance that is compatible with your translation, Strong's, Young's
- Bible dictionary
- Regular dictionary
- Encyclopedias; Vine's, Zondervan, Unger, Smith
- Topical Bible; Nave's
- Expository dictionary; Vine's
- Halley's Handbook
- Commentaries; Matthew Henry, etc., Erdman's Handbooks
- "What the Bible is All About" by Henrietta Mears
- Interlinear Lexicon
- Extra-Biblical Resources; archeology, history, geography, atlas, customs, word studies
- Bible Software
- Online information and reference: searchtheword.org, biblios, biblestudytools.com, etc.

About Bibles: Ponder this observation of the King James Version of the Bible. The year 1425 marks the time in history when the 66 books of the Bible were canonized. It was not the first translation, but in 1611, the King James Bible began to be printed and was eventually distributed in mass to mankind. The King James Version became the dependable, supernatural “first voice” of the Word given to world. It is still considered to be the most accurate textual authority of the literal translations.

Eventually, early century translators started to eliminate words and stretch Truths. Today’s modern versions contain approximately 8,000 changes with 2,800 fewer words than the original 1611 King James Version. Most of these translations have been accused of changing or neutralizing many essential orthodox doctrines to fit the lower standards of modern spirituality. Worldly people love the watering down and redefining of scripture that lessens accountability. Be aware that newer translations reflect the particular interpretations other than the divine inspiration of the original writers of scripture and many different slants of spirituality. As a wise student of the Word of God, you should always have the “first voice” of King James Version as the primary reference alongside any other versions you may choose. Do not allow the ease of readability of newer versions divert you from sound doctrine. **Note:** There is a CBV bible...the Confused Believer Version...stick to sound references!

Developing the Perceiving Skills of Interpreting Scripture to Show Yourself Approved

Sound interpretation skills come from several sources:

- ❖ Common sense
- ❖ Exegesis
- ❖ Human teachers/past scholarship
- ❖ Your chief teacher, the Holy Spirit

The Starting Point

The true interpretation and meaning of a text is to lift out what God originally intended it to mean when it was first spoken. This is the starting point. With careful controls, a second or fuller meaning is possible. This is especially true with the prophecies of the Bible. When you understand the **face value** of a scripture, then that scripture stands in judgment of you - you do not stand in judgment of it. Believers have taken scripture, stripped it of its intended purpose and power to fit personal belief and have been proud to do so. As a believer you must seek to perceive and enforce the original intention, the face value of scripture.

Remember, the elements of studying to show yourself approved - **TIME + TECHNIQUE = STUDY**

**THE GOLDEN RULE OF INTERPRETATION:
WHEN THE PLAIN SENSE OF SCRIPTURE MAKES COMMON SENSE, SEEK NO OTHER SENSE,
LEST IT RESULT IN NONSENSE**

- ❖ Set aside a time you know that you know you can fulfill, 15 minutes to ___ hours. Pray for spiritual inspiration and illumination - it will come!
- ❖ Keep a notebook just for Bible study and exegesis. Write out all of your findings and thoughts spontaneously.
- ❖ Use the worksheets from this class or later devise some of your own to transfer the “meat” of your study from your notes into a final form.
- ❖ If you use a computer, print out finished work and compile in a notebook, folder or file.

- ❖ If you are commonly interrupted, space the study time over a period of many hours/days. Come and go as you can. You will still be making progress. Don't let interruptions cause you to give up. Pick up where you left off until you finish, no matter how long it takes.

You May Not Ever Be a Scholar, But You Can Be a Theologian

A theologian is anyone who is redeemed and standing in the circle of divine revelation. If you get into that circle, stay in that circle. **For example:** You stand in the circle of divine revelation about salvation. You are a theologian in the subject of salvation and refuse to be allured or trapped by counterfeit interpretations, right? When you practice simple, proven hermeneutical skills and are led by the Spirit in your study - **you are a theologian!** Perhaps not one with a Master or Doctorate degree but one nonetheless!

The point of the lesson is to get into the **actual, practical use of the simple basic skills of hermeneutics**. Do not expect to become an instant “scholar” or an elevated “theologian” among believers or pagans. Your role in the body of Christ will dictate and develop the depth of your scholarly and theological study of the Word. What you can become is an expert in how to study!

To Ponder: Regardless of what you know theologically, you are still required to match it against Jesus; who He is, what He has spoken and what He has done. Jesus is perfect theology, manifested. He is the standard for all O.T. and N.T doctrine and theology. Never put a question mark where Messiah Jesus has put a period! Make His theology yours.

The more your responsibilities revolve around the study of the Word, the more the development of hermeneutical skills is needed. **Example:** A believer who is called into full-time ministry must **master** studying to gain approval to equip people properly. Others called to fulfill various roles of expertise in the body as a layman need to **habitually** study to show themselves approved - being able to rightly divide the holy and the profane for themselves. All believers, new and old, educated and non-educated, are able to practice simple, sound hermeneutical skills. Surround yourself with people and material that speak the Truth spiritually, not just biblically.

SEEK SPIRITUAL TRUTH NOT JUST BIBLICAL TRUTH ALONE

SPIRITUAL TRUTH	BIBLICAL TRUTH ALONE
<p>The Holy Spirit teaches you. Emphasis is on application.</p> <p>Digested logos bring rhema. Life, peace and freedom reign.</p>	<p>Men do the teaching. Knowing chapter/verse for everything.</p> <p>Walking concordance. Religious spirit. Brings legalism and death to faith.</p>

Two Ways to Study

- ❖ Devotional - Short method; using only one sheet of paper, time involved, 20 min. +
 - ❖ Exegesis - Long method; undetermined sheets of paper, time involved, 1-4 hours +
1. The **Devotional method** of Bible study teaches you to focus on several important things. The devotional method is an excellent tool to help inspire you in basic Bible study. You will be doing two versions of Devotional Study. Besides being used personally, they are excellent tools for youth and small adult groups to efficiently get into basic study of the Word of God.

- ❖ **The Devotional method** will help you to read in the right manner, stimulating your observation and interpretation skills. Expect the Devotional method to first slow you down so that you read:
 - ⇒ Thoughtfully, patiently
 - ⇒ Repeatedly, selectively
 - ⇒ Prayerfully, meditatively
 - ⇒ Imaginatively, purposefully, telescopically
 - ⇒ Acquisitively, to “own” a scripture and to have a scripture “own” you
- ❖ You will be inspired to have a sure way to discipline and strengthen yourself by establishing conviction and fresh commitment when you are being tested, are weak or are in confusion.
- ❖ Devotional exercises develop the skill of having the **practical application** of a scripture come into reality. It will provide a needed, unique and simple way to renew your mind and crucify your flesh by helping you get to the point of saying, “**Not my will but Yours be done.**”
- ❖ You will have hands on experience of the teaching, doctrine, reproof, correction and training in righteousness principles of **II Timothy 3:16-17** come to pass in your life.
- ❖ Your amazing, practical, perceptive study on one sheet of paper can be very effective when preparing lessons to share and to teach or preach from.

2. **The Exegesis method** of Bible study is the primary tool of deeper study. You are going to find that doing exegesis will take you to a new level of accomplishment in what it means to be approved, a workman who needs not be ashamed. The opposite of studying to show yourself to be approved is expecting leadership to bring all creative insight, illumination and exhortation. These believers described in scripture desire to have their ears tickled but never handle the scripture for themselves, **II Timothy 4:3-4**. This five-step method of Bible study includes handling scripture following four principles of exegesis and interpretation, culminating in a practical application. The four categories to be researched are:

- ❖ Historical principle
- ❖ Grammatical principle
- ❖ Literal principle
- ❖ Synthesis principle

The Exegesis exercise is finished with the fifth step, the **practical principle of application** using the same criteria for practical applications in Devotional Bible study. Finally, the scripture or passage is written out for memorization.

Two Devotional Bible Study Assignments: One for Illumination, One for Practical Application

Note: The following assignments are the reason you are to have a **Be Still Station** set up. Those who study to show themselves approved must have a place to spread out! Use the following practical format for many, many other scriptures you are led to write on to develop insights.

VERSION ONE for Illumination and Insight – Seven Insights Devotional Study

- ❖ Use one scripture. Write an entry on it seven times. Expect to go deeper each time.
- ❖ Complete the study within a week. Use the Amplified Bible for one of your searches.

SEVEN INSIGHTS DEVOTIONAL STUDY

LEARNING TO FLY IN THE SPIRIT – ISAIAH 40:31

DATE _____ 20____

This Devotional is a short format to record your brief and to the point **illuminations**. Using **Isaiah 40:31** write an entry on it seven times. Put a week time limit to complete your study. Let this be the first of many, many other scriptures you are led to write on to develop insights. For this exercise, use **Isaiah 40:31** from the Amplified Version below, to gain insight on learning better to fly in the Spirit.

Isaiah 40:31 AMP But those who wait for the Lord (who expect, look for, and hope in Him) shall change and renew their strength and power; they shall lift their wings and mount up (close to God) as eagles (mount up to the sun); they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint or become tired.

- ❖ Do you have “wings” right now? ___Y ___N
- ❖ Have you ever experienced Isaiah 40:31 flying? ___Y ___N

Entry One – Write out the scripture in the first person using, I, me, my, mine. Example: Because I wait, expect, look for and hope in You. Next, write what the point of this verse is; what is it saying to you personally at this moment in your life.

The point of this verse is:

What this verse is personally saying to me is:

Entry Two – Circle two key words above in Isaiah 40:31; Look up and write out the English and Hebrew definitions of those key words. Start by looking up the word, wait.

HEBREW

ENGLISH

Entry Three – Write an entry on your insight on each definition as it applies to your life.

Word One

Word Two

Entry Four – Read Chapter 40 for complete context, then journal an entry on your insights.

Entry Five – To stir up your understanding, read the verse in a different version. Write out the complete verse and then write an entry on your insights.

Insights from the _____ Version

Entry Six – Read the cross references or notes for Isaiah 40:31. Write about a nugget you discover.

Entry Seven – Write your testimony about how this scripture has shaped or reshaped your commitment, understanding and insight about Isaiah 40:31.

The point of this Devotional is to gain insight and deeper illumination on “flying” in the Spirit. What is the final practical application that insight and deeper illumination has given you to better help your life right now?

The final practical application for me is:

1. What does it mean to you to fly in the Spirit in light of this scripture?

2. Do you have spiritual “wings” right now? ___Y ___N

3. Have you literally experienced Isaiah 40:31 flying? ___Y ___N

4. After writing the seven entries, which entry brought the deepest insight?

5. Has your perception increased with new wisdom about Isaiah 40:31? ___Y ___N

It has deepened because

6. Do you “own” this scripture now? ___Y ___N Does this scripture “own” you? ___Y ___N

**VERSION TWO: Devotional Bible Study – For Practical Application
SAMPLE DEVOTIONAL BIBLE STUDY EXERCISE**

TITLE _____ **GOD IS LOVE AND SO AM I** _____ **DATE** Today

PRAYER: Guide, illuminate and stir me so that I will perceive what You intended this verse to mean. Help me to apply and live out the truths of this verse in my life.

SCRIPTURE: I Corinthians 13:5 AMP It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God’s love in us), does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it (it pays no attention to a suffered wrong).

SPACE PETS:

KEY WORDS OF CONVICTION

<u>xxx</u> S in to confess	_____ P rayer to pray	
_____ P romise to claim	_____ E rror to correct or avoid	God’s love is IN me
_____ A ttitude to change	<u>x</u> T ruth to believe	
<u>x</u> C ommand to obey	_____ S omething to believe God for	
<u>x</u> E xample to follow		

PERSONALIZED PARAPHRASE: Honest evaluation, conviction, insight and observation of yourself

The Amplified version is so unbelievably convicting! I have fallen so far from this description of love...help Lord!

- S** I have been arrogant towards _____ because they hurt my feelings; they are wrong, but I cannot hold it as a judgment against them, elevating myself.
- S** I have been rude, a real brat, touchy and resentful; I want my own way.
- S** They are wrong; they have been selfish, unteachable and narrow-minded...so what! I have taken account of the evil done to me; I have made a big deal of the wrong I have suffered.
- C** The command to me is love, love, love, love, love, love...I must go against the flow and love!
- E** The eternal examples are these incomparable descriptive words of how love acts and what it should and should not do. These words tell me exactly how I should be acting **if I want to.**
- T** Lord, I want to. I know I am able to love on command because You are in me. Your love in me does not insist on its own way.

PERSONALIZED PRACTICAL APPLICATION – Circle all the “I” statements

I refuse to be prideful or arrogant anymore, thinking I am above them; more righteous than they are; I will not be rude when I am around them face to face. If I am tempted to demand my own way, I will keep my mouth shut. When I am tempted to give in to my feelings, I will not react and be touchy, fretful or resentful. I will not entertain thoughts of how I was rejected or how badly I am treated and when I have a chance to get on my self-pity soapbox or if someone else brings it up, I will change the subject!

I refuse to be an unforgiving person. I choose to forgive now and in the future. Father, I will do these things because I prefer being in my spirit and walking in love more than giving in to my woundedness. I give my woundedness to You and I believe You alone will heal me.

GIMMICK – Question: Is this gimmick personal, practical and possible?

When I want to react in the flesh, when I feel and know I am slipping into sin, I will press my fingers over my heart and allow the Father’s heart of love in me to flow out of me with right words and actions.

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION OR PARAPHRASED SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

Your love in me does not insist on its own way – God is love and so am I.

DIRECTIONS FOR TWO DEVOTIONAL BIBLE STUDY EXERCISES

Use the Devotional Bible Study exercise sheet on pages 31 and 33. Observe the sample Devotional Study exercise sheet on the previous page as a model to copy. Using the model, begin your first Devotional Study exercise:

- * Use **Galatians 2:20** for your first Devotional exercise.
 - * Follow the directions below and finish within 20 minutes.
 - * Do only steps 1-7 for this first exercise. Do not do steps 8-10 until instructed to do so.
1. Set your mind to take the scripture literally. Write a prayer for yourself as you begin the exercise.
 2. Write out the verse, circle the **key words** in the passage.
 3. Read and meditate over the passage **5-10 times** for saturation; visualize the scene literally, the sights, sounds and smells. Use the 5 W's: Who, what, why, when and where.
 4. Read the sections before and after the passage. Let the scripture talk to you.
 5. Read the "**Space Pets**" and check the ones that reveal your personal conviction. These phrases are geared to point out how the Word of God exposes your sin, gives promises, commands and what examples to follow.
 6. Your particular conviction dictates which of the Space Pets you use; do not use all of them.
 7. Write out your insights and personalized paraphrase gleaned from the passage. In the presence of the LORD be candid; use words that describe your honest, heartfelt convictions, insights and feelings. In the vernacular, this is your personal "dump."
 8. Next is personal practical application, which is explained below. Only after understanding how to compose an application write out your convictions and specific resolve. Remember, practical application is the most important part of Bible study.
 9. From examples on page 18 choose a childlike, memorable gimmick, then write out the scripture for memory, either verbatim or paraphrased.
 10. The final thing to do is the most fun; choose an appropriate title for your work. Intriguing titles should be attention-grabbing words helping you to easily remember your practical application and memorization.

After understanding how to write a good practical application, choose a scripture from the **Crucified Life** section of scriptures on page 39 for your second Devotional exercise. Prepare to share this second Devotional.

Mastering Practical Application - The Word is Lived Out and Demonstrated - Proverbs 2:1-7

Application, not head knowledge, is the ultimate goal of all Bible study. It is much more valuable that Christ-like servanthood is lived out than to recite chapter and verse or spout Hebrew and Greek definitions. Consider Jesus who (had emptied Himself of His equality with God) correctly interpreted and applied scripture **by the Spirit within Him**.

Because of His foundation of scripture to perceive from and His intimate Spirit-to-spirit relationship with His Father, He was able to bring authority and proper application of revelation to the Word. This offended the religious leaders because they only applied and interpreted by the letter of the law, not by the Spirit.

- ❖ Learning to write out personal, practical applications from your study will set the stage for **your will to be transformed** more and more to line up with His will and Word.

- ❖ As you study God's Word with observation and interpretation, you come to the responsibility of accountability. You are to apply the truths of God to your life, not apply how your life can use the Word of God. **Example:** To get rich, to manipulate people, etc.
- ❖ Doing Devotionals begins with hearing what the Holy Spirit is saying to you and ends with making a way for you to become a doer of that Word. Application makes you a doer of the Word. Application transforms you because of the close, intimate relationship you create in handling Truth. The Word is alive and with your assent changes you!
- ❖ Expect writing out your personal practical application to ignite the doing of scripture in your life. It will speed up the maturation process of the Christian life and especially your ability to renew your mind to the Word of God.

God's Format to Bring Light into Your Life – II Timothy 3:16-17

Working on practical applications will affect your life in the following areas, listed in **II Timothy 3:16-17**. Expect the light of the Word to challenge you in these areas.

- ❖ **Teaching/doctrine** – Reveals what God says on any particular subject.
- ❖ **Reproof** – Exposes areas of your thinking and behavior that do not align with God's Word.
- ❖ **Correction** – Points out what needs to be changed.
- ❖ **Training in righteousness** – Seen and explained through:
 - ⇒ Teachings, prophecies, signs, symbols, numbers, visions, dreams
 - ⇒ Commands, promises, warnings
 - ⇒ Lives of biblical characters; God dealing with man, sin and the enemy

Practical Application Releases Your Faith and Brings Supernatural Change in Your Life

The **logos**, the written Word of God, becomes supernatural **rhema** when you mix it with faith. When you, on purpose, humbly submit to Truth, it will be your faith that supernaturally breaks your unbelief.

JAMES 1:21 AMP SO GET RID OF ALL UNCLEANNESS AND THE RAMPANT OUTGROWTH OF WICKEDNESS, AND IN A HUMBLE (GENTLE, MODEST) SPIRIT RECEIVE AND WELCOME THE WORD WHICH IMPLANTED AND ROOTED (IN YOUR HEARTS) CONTAINS THE POWER TO SAVE YOUR SOULS.

Applying the Word of God and being a doer of the Word of God releases delivering power.

JAMES 1:22 AMP BUT BE DOERS OF THE WORD (OBEY THE MESSAGE), AND NOT MERELY LISTENERS TO IT, BETRAYING YOURSELVES (INTO DECEPTION BY REASONING CONTRARY TO THE TRUTH).

JEREMIAH 23:29 AMP IS NOT MY WORD LIKE FIRE (THAT CONSUMES ALL THAT CANNOT ENDURE THE TEST)? SAYS THE LORD, AND LIKE A HAMMER THAT BREAKS IN PIECES THE ROCK (OF MOST STUBBORN RESISTANCE)?

Isn't it true that all the real supernatural changes, growth and freedom you have ever experienced in your life have come when you submitted to the Truth and believed? ___Y ___N **Galatians 2:20** is Paul's personal practical application. Read it out loud. Note it is not a prayer.

GALATIANS 2:20 AMP I HAVE BEEN CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST (IN HIM I HAVE SHARED HIS CRUCIFIXION); IT IS NO LONGER I WHO LIVE, BUT CHRIST (THE MESSIAH) LIVES IN ME.

Now look at the practical application of **I Corinthians 13:5** on the sample Devotional on page 110. Note how this example of a **personal practical application and proclamation** to the Lord made an absolute statement regarding personal behavior. It was based on conviction from the Holy Spirit

received from directly handling the scripture. Note how the personal application and proclamation is:

- ❖ Personal, practical, possible; states only what is really going to be done.
- ❖ No preaching or high idealism.
- ❖ Does not include any other verses in the application.
- ❖ Begin each personal application statement with the word, I; **I will, I will not, I commit, I refuse, I choose**, etc.
- ❖ Woven with the most important applicable words and phrases of the chosen scripture.

These decisions coming from the conviction of the Holy Spirit have the power to do all those elusive things that dangle before you every day of your lives. You are told to be obedient, renew your mind, to break your will to His will, deny and commit your life. Do you need help to do it?

- ❖ Writing out practical applications to your convictions can be the first step in this **crucifixion** process. Your maturity and growth as a Christian depend upon the steps you take to **crucify the flesh and to subdue soul control**. The specific convictions and resolve that are made in this written form will become the launching pad of becoming a “doer” of the Word and not just a “hearer” only.

Using the unique tools of Devotional Bible Study and writing practical applications create:

- ❖ A new, deeper relationship with God and a godly self-image, giving you spiritual significance because on purpose, you set His will above your own will.
- ❖ A new relationship with yourself; you destroy your doublemindedness.
- ❖ A new relationship with others; they are not your enemy or God’s enemy.
- ❖ A new relationship with the enemy; you are not deceived or a pawn. You are now on God’s side. The enemy is under your feet.
- ❖ Personal practical application is the ultimate goal of all Bible study.

Note: Understand how the “I” statements draw a line in the sand, bringing conviction to fruition. Godly and ungodly entities must take heed to the force of these decisions. When you allow your statements of resolve to overtake your unruly behavior and unbelief, soon your will is His will and the enemy is now your footstool. Using the “I will, I will not, I commit, etc.” statements corral you, tame you and place a needed spiritual and mental boundary around you. Your proclamation, as a decision of your will, does not provide a fleshly way out for you! It states exactly what is needed to crucify your flesh and destroy your doublemindedness. The result is a renewed mind – the only way to live in freedom and peace.

**ALLOW WRITING OUT PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS TO BE ONE OF THE MAJOR TOOLS YOU USE
IN YOUR ONGOING PURSUIT FOR FREEDOM AND TO BE LED BY THE SPIRIT AS A LIFESTYLE**

Hot Tips to Help Write Successful Personal Practical Applications

A very successful tool to drive practical applications **deep down in your spirit and renew your mind** is to make up simple, even ridiculous, childlike gimmicks to replace wrong thinking and force right actions. You will be amazed to discover that you are more likely to remember weird and odd things than ordinary things.

Examine the scripture you have chosen and see if it triggers an unusual or ridiculous picture. Use your idea and incorporate it into your practical application and in the title. It is conceivable that if

you seriously tackle the weak spots in your life (also called “guardian lies”) using these suggestions, you will conquer your weaknesses and lies!

Examples of Childlike Gimmicks:

- ❖ If you picked a scripture to help you respond in love, in word or deed, commit to pressing your fingers over your heart to activate pressing the “Father’s heart” that is in you to come out of you instead of your negative response. Your practical application would say, “When I want to react in the flesh, I will press my fingers over my heart and allow the Father’s heart of love to flow out of me with right words and actions.” Title your exercise, “God Is Love and So Am I.”
- ❖ If you picked a scripture to eradicate your anger, gossipy mouth, habit of returning railing for railing or the like, consider making the cliché “stuff a sock in your mouth,” a reminder to keep you on a path of righteousness. Put several socks in convicting places where you are most likely to sin, by the phone, in a particular room, etc. In times of temptation and sin, see the sock in your mouth keeping you from speaking destructive words. In your practical application say, “When I am about to get in trouble with my mouth, I will say to myself – stuff a sock in your mouth, Christian.” Title your exercise, “Stuff A Sock in Your Mouth, Christian.”
- ❖ If you used the scripture, **Isaiah 50:7** “**I set my face like flint,**” proclaim in your practical application “Every time I am tempted to be ‘wimpy’ I will see my face on Mt. Rushmore.” Title your exercise, “My Face is on Mt. Rushmore.” Finally, get a picture of Mt. Rushmore and put it in a conspicuous place.
- ❖ If you pick a scripture that speaks to replace your belief and feelings of insecurity and need to perform, lie, hide, etc., consider using the Cross as a reality check to correct yourself. In times of weakness, take a pencil and pen and quickly draw a Cross; look around where you are until you see a Cross; while driving, look for and count the Crosses you see. Your practical application would say, “When I am sinking into darkness of any kind, I will focus on the Cross, the Tree that sets me free.” Title your work, “The Tree Has Set Me Free.”
- ❖ Consider 3x5 cards in windowsills, your car, desk, purse, briefcase, on a mirror, etc. Consider writing on the palm of your hand for a day, **Isaiah 49:16**, putting a whistle, duct tape or another unique object in an obvious place for a reminder to do right.
- ❖ Commit to make a habit of speaking the scripture or paraphrased scripture out loud. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God, right?

Use and Reuse Devotionals

- ❖ The Holy Spirit rejoices when the intentions of your unruly will turn into action. A promise written is a promise kept. Expect what you write to witness to you when you write it and also flash in your mind again and again when you are tested and tempted, helping you to persevere and be faithful to the commands of the Word.
- ❖ Find a way to “trick” yourself into a new level of obedience and faith. You will know you have successfully put your practical application into practice when you “own” the scripture you have chosen and the scripture “owns” you.

- ❖ You will know your practical application has no power if you can't remember the verse or the challenge to yourself to change. If you are really serious about following your conviction, be ruthless with how you construct your practical application.

In times of weakness refer to your work to renew your mind and for spiritual warfare. The glory of using the Devotional Bible Study exercise sheet is that it is truly a short method. A profound impact can be made from one verse or passage in 10-15 minutes. Teach, preach and counsel from the inspiration of doing a Devotional Bible Study.

Now prune your work using the following Checklist for Devotionals.

CHECKLIST FOR DEVOTIONALS

THE GOAL: FOR YOU TO OWN THIS ONE SCRIPTURE AND FOR IT TO OWN YOU

1. First, examine your work, make any changes and corrections using the this check list.
2. Next, share your work with a partner. Observe each other's work for corrections and suggestions.
3. Use the checklist and questions below to help improve each other's work.

Your Personalized Paraphrase, "The Dump"

The goal: To have right evaluation, conviction and insight of myself: what is the Holy Spirit speaking personally to me in light of this scripture right now.

- Have you been honest about yourself as the light of this scripture flows into you?
- Does your evaluation of yourself contain words of conviction from the Holy Spirit?
- Does your evaluation of yourself reveal and release strong, truthful insight of yourself?
- Is the observation of yourself done in the light of this one scripture alone?

Your "Dump" Should Not Contain:

- Any "I" statements pertaining to what you are going to do in practical application.
- Any of the words: you, they, them, we or us.
- Hallelujah, it is a sane estimate of me in the light of the scripture!

Your Personalized Practical Application

The key is to proclaim what you will practically do to become a doer of this scripture.

- Oops! There are "dump" comments that should not be in the practical application.
- It is not personal.
- It is not practical.
- It is not achievable.
- It has statements of high idealism and rabbit trails of unnecessary rhetoric.
- It refers to other scriptures.
- There is no use of the words and principles of the chosen scripture.
- It contains the words: you, they, them, we or us.
- It is weak, allowing a way out of obedience, conviction and righteousness.
- It is not practical enough for a righteous path of change to bring victory or bear righteous fruit.
- Hallelujah, my proclamations of I will, I will not, I commit and I refuse set practical and Spirit-led boundaries to solidify a new and deeper relationship of righteousness with the LORD, His

Word, myself and others. I am pronouncing a victorious breaking away and separation from the work of the enemy in my life.

Your Gimmick

The key is to use a childlike gimmick to replace wrong thinking and force right actions

- ___ It is less than convincing that it will work in real life.
- ___ It needs to be more visual and “gimmicky.”
- ___ Hallelujah, this is a winner of a gimmick that will remind me everyday of my proclamations and the spiritual and mental boundaries I have set for myself.

Your Title

- ___ It is too long with too many words, not easily remembered.
- ___ It does not define the heart of conviction from this one scripture.
- ___ Hallelujah, my title really works, it is tidy, strong and memorable!

Avoid These Things

1. Avoid Bible "roulette" to find material for homespun philosophy, prostituting the scripture.

- ❖ Opening the scriptures to receive immediate direction or guidance.
- ❖ Focusing only on singular life verses; the **whole** Word of God is to be for your life.
- ❖ Mystifying the scriptures to spiritualize or elevate. Beware - the best lie is 99% true.
- ❖ Avoid depending upon: Hidden prophecies, Bible codes, numerology and the like.

2. Avoid opinionated Bible study. Well-meaning believers who lead groups ask each person, “What does this scripture mean to you?” Never settle for opinions. Those who accurately handle the Word should be asking, “What does this verse really mean?”

3. Refrain from making a point at the price of proper interpretation by “cutting and pasting” scriptures. To make a pet principle fit something of your own making is practicing eisegesis. All scripture is for us but not all scripture is about us. Do not use obscure passages to explain plain ones. Use plain established scriptures to explain the obscure ones. **One “off” doctrine tilts all other doctrines off their foundation.**

4. Avoid superficial Bible study. Bible study is hard work! Reading devotionally alone is not studying. It requires an investment of **effort and time, I Timothy 5:17 AMP, II Timothy 2:15**. Laziness and lack of technique must go. Leaders should single out whose gifting is teaching to lead Bible studies. Faithful volunteers may or may not do the teaching appropriately. Watch out if someone says, “I’ve read no man’s commentary; I have just gone to the Word myself; by myself; this revelation has been given to me.” **Note:** If teaching is your main foundational gift, you should be teaching!

5. Jesus’ words are Spirit and Truth. When you are challenged, confidently say what Jesus’ responses were to the issue. Leaders today test Jesus’ words, authority, theology and integrity. He said to them and is saying to mankind today, **“It is written, have you not read,” Matthew 19:4, Matthew 22:31**. Say: “Jesus’ response to that was...Jesus said to them...Jesus quotes scripture to confirm that...”

Seek Truth and Have the Right Attitude

The main reason the Bible is not appreciated or accepted is that the secular world and many believers have eliminated God’s absolutes from their lives. The world’s system is not fond of God’s

absolutes. Respectability will return when believers agree on the absolutes of the Word of God and sound hermeneutics. Absolutes in the Word of God have been replaced with extra-biblical principles. The definition of extra-biblical is: Unusual directives that may not compare with any precedent in the Word. **Example:** Observe principles used by cults and immature “visionaries,” how they confirm no scripture, argue with scripture, add to scripture or oppose a scripture.

Take responsibility for yourself in seeking Truth. Truth needs to strike you personally and become **rhema**, a revealed Truth to you. **Rhema** comes when the light goes off over your head, not when you take someone else's rhema and claim it for your own. Do not be the one who says, “If so and so believes and teaches this, then it is good enough for me,” **Acts 17:11b, Titus:1:9**. When faced with scriptures and issues in question, be open, saying, “I don't know what this means.” **Examples:** Once saved always saved, end times timetable, etc.

Do not focus on what you do not understand, just obey what you do understand. Instead of repeating and accepting someone else's meaning or trying to justify why something is true without checking it out for yourself, you need to do your own Bible study, look at both sides and all the possibilities to decide on your own. When you are a student of the Bible you will constantly be hearing Him speak to you, loving you, wooing you, correcting you, guiding you, revealing darkness and preparing you for things to come.

Many double-minded believers have taken a compromising stand as well. The body has chosen a comfort zone and a user-friendly attitude of having more faith in their feelings and opinions than in the words of the Bible. Today, not agreeing on the Truth is in the majority. The Bible has lost credibility because absolutes have been changed by politically correct, compromising believers who do not want to be accountable to anyone or anything, especially the Word of God.

All interpretations are based on theological convictions. General theological and doctrinal assumptions drawn solely from second-hand sources will color interpretations. **A reality check:** Approximately only 6% of believers have read through the entire Bible; approximately 4% are daily connected to the Word. Problems also stem from **immaturity** including: denominational opinion, ignorance, self-help skills, shallow disciplines, doctrines of convenience, embracing perversions, cultural influence and being deceived. The result is a “fast food” spiritual appetite. The body of Christ has sought genuine spirituality with non-genuine motives and has reaped a warped and/or counterfeit belief system.

The Answer to Bad Hermeneutics is Good Hermeneutics

This lesson presents a format for going past just reading the Bible to be a student of the Bible. Learning a few basic hermeneutical skills to add to the process of reading will cause ignorance, condemnation and compromise to give way to a sense of accomplishment and a new momentum and zeal to continue. Good hermeneutics needs to flow out of you, a led by the Spirit believer!

- ❖ You must understand, first and foremost you are to be a **minister of Truth of the Word of God**.
- ❖ God's Word must come **before** your giftedness and before your own wants and desires to do the work of an overcomer. Don't allow serving out of your gifts to become a hindrance. Enthralment with your gift can overshadow your need for accountability to the infallible Word, thereby elevating yourself and supernatural experiences.
- ❖ You should know enough about the basic tenets of Christian doctrine to be able to simply answer with sound reproof when challenged. **Example:** What can you say to someone about the Deity of Jesus, authority of His blood, the power released in the resurrection of

the Lord Jesus, the second coming, etc.? Being able to respond in simple wisdom may not seem like an important thing, but it is. **When doctrine is experienced, it can be shared.**

Sound doctrine, secure belief systems and intimacy with the Lord will follow learned hermeneutical principles of **studying** scriptures. It will also develop zeal to live out the **application** of the Word of God. This lesson involves both studying and applying the Word of God. The following situations can be changed by knowing how to study the Word of God:

- ❖ Ignorance - not knowing; stupidity - knowing and not doing right.
- ❖ Shallow disciplines.
- ❖ Perversions, wrong doctrines and interpretations.
- ❖ Deceptions that twist Truth.

Do You Want to Be Bold? Handling the Word of God for Yourself Produces Boldness

Knowing the Word of God personally produces boldness. In what area of the Word of God can you boldly speak about? Bold people are able to speak up in situations when others compromise and run. Bold people will perceive and be moved by compassion when someone needs to hear Truth spoken in love. Picture it: **Knowing the Word of God = Commitment = Boldness.** Is this you? Consider the boldness of Martin Luther and the Protestant reformers who handled and understood the scriptures for themselves. Their commitment to Truth caused them to be bold and unswerving. They did not intend to break away from the establishment but wanted to make a crooked way straight.

Their illumination on God's revelation was about the **grammatical and practical clarity** of the scripture that they discovered as they studied the Word for themselves. They simply perceived the basic Truth about the principle of being justified by faith. Boldness based on a personal commitment to a particular Truth is the result when you have handled scripture to the point of "owning" it personally (*rhema*).

What you now believe supersedes fears, inadequacies and excuses. Boldness comes forth when commitment is established. No commitment = No boldness. **Example:** when you are **completely identified with the Lord Jesus**, you are able to boldly stand up and speak out. Your boldness is going to be equal to your understanding of what it means to be in Christ. When boldness is mixed with being led by the Spirit, you become a kind of reformer! If you desire to be bold and live out the **fullness of your salvation and your partnership with the Holy Spirit**, commit yourself to understanding scripture through personal study.

Faulty Biblical Interpretations – When What is Stated Contradicts the Literal Meaning

The aim of good interpretation is not **uniqueness**. Trying to discover what no one else has ever seen before is a sin of pride. Unique interpretations are usually wrong. You cannot make a text mean anything that pleases you and then give the Holy Spirit credit for it. The Holy Spirit is the one who inspired the original intent. Therefore, His help for you will be in your ability to perceive or discover the **original intent** and then He will guide you as you commit to faithfully apply that meaning. **A text cannot mean what it never meant.** Believers on the cutting edge of the current prophetic movement (teachers, preachers and especially intercessors and prophetic ministers) need to be aware of the dangers of the following faulty approaches or methods of interpretation:

- ❖ **Naturalistic approach** - Limits the meaning and significance of scripture to those elements that conform to natural process and human insight. The possibility of divine authorship and

supernatural events are ruled out from the start. **Example:** Scientists who debunk the explanations of the biblical account of creation.

- ❖ **Supernaturalistic approach** - Interprets all scripture from a supernatural point of view. The “natural” meaning of the text is downgraded or totally ignored. **Example:** Those who deliberately handle snakes to prove the supernatural protection from poisonous snakes.
- ❖ **Existential approach** - An attempt to combine the supernatural and the natural. It accepts the naturalistic approach yet goes beyond the Truth of scripture in the supernatural encounter. **Example:** Out-of-body experience may be used as proof there is an after-life and confirmation that a person is saved without regard to the scriptural process of salvation. Also, the belief that the “Touched by an Angel” TV show represented the real Truth about angels and their work.
- ❖ **Dogmatic approach** - Used by those who use a personal, narrow conviction to advocate a faulty approach or method for interpretation. “Our way or the highway,” becomes their mantra. Watch out! A text out of context is a pretext, meaning it is a wrong interpretation.
- ❖ **Allegorical method** - Adds figurative and a more spiritualized sense to a passage than is warranted. It denies the historical and literal sense of the scripture. The emphasis is placed on another meaning so that the original words or events have little significance. This approach perverts the true meaning of the scripture under the guise of seeking a deeper or more spiritual meaning. It is the most identifiable perversion of interpretation.
 - ⇒ This method does not interpret scripture, it obscures the true meaning of the Word of God. It presumes that beneath the plain and obvious sense of the scripture lies its true and deeper meaning.
 - ⇒ It gives wings to all manner of speculation, putting forth a whim or fancy interpretation, giving license to interpret scripture to say anything that is desired.
 - ⇒ Doctrinal denominational prejudices or biased positions twist right interpretation.
 - ⇒ It spiritualizes the scripture by what one thing it means or wants it to mean, opening a door to speculation, free association, spiritualization and imaginations.
 - ⇒ One reads into the text what is wanted from the mind, not allowing a means whereby the interpreter can be tested, namely the Bible. Examples of the allegory method:
 - ✓ **Wrong:** Comparing the walls in the book of Nehemiah to the broken-down walls of men's souls.
 - ✓ **Right:** Comparing the rock that Moses struck for water with Jesus the Rock **because of the proof in O.T and N.T. references.**

Isaiah 55:12 is another example of potential wrong interpretation: “**The trees of the field shall clap their hands**” is a literal possibility on earth now. Instead, the context is pointing to what will happen in the future. Figurative language is not to be interpreted literally without perceiving the context. Don't spiritualize or allegorize (when something literal represents something spiritual) unless the text itself calls for it. Allow the Word of God alone to point to any allegorical or spiritual interpretation.

Interpretations are Warped Because of Deception

Deception is the major characteristic of deterioration in the last days. Every doctrine and fundamental Truth is under attack and up for grabs. The power to deceive is Satan's most powerful and successful tool to manipulate mankind. He is a master of mingling Truth and error.

All of our interpretations have been based on the theological assumptions and convictions that we have been exposed to through the years. How you interpret makes you a liberal, conservative, orthodox, reformed, Catholic, Evangelical, etc. From there you can be radical or moderate. The diverse interpretations within the Church have come from "preaching hype," our own cultural "Heinz 57" opinions, "fast food" seminars, books and tapes. Most likely, you have been taught what to think for yourself, **not how to think**. Most believers have consumed everyone else's exegesis and interpretations from these sources, not really knowing what to believe personally. Two examples:

- ❖ During the Reformation period of Church history, Martin Luther and most of the reformationists interpreted much of the prophecies about Israel and end time events in the O.T. allegorically, because at the time the nation of Israel was not even on world maps. Thinking that there had to be a new Israel produced anti-Semitism and the heretical roots of Replacement Theology.
- ❖ The heretical presumption of Replacement Theology erroneously purports that God is no longer dealing with nation of Israel but instead He is dealing only with the body of Christ as true Israel. They were either poor students, ignorant or willfully ignored perceiving the full counsel of the Word that redundantly reveals the Father's heart for Israel and the Jews. The deception lives today. God's Word is forever. His covenants are forever. Israel is forever.

Do not be naïve...all believers, you, are subject to lies and deception in varying degrees throughout life. **To this day, we are all capable of being deceived and lied to.** Common personal issues to eradicate are: "I do not know for sure if God loves me or accepts me; my sin cannot be forgiven; no one is able to live the Christian life; all things do not work out for good; I can compromise and still be a good Christian." It takes honesty to ask, "Where am I being deceived?" It takes courage to receive the Truth and change.

A CONCEPT TO UNDERSTAND:

WHEN YOU ARE TEMPTED OR ACCUSED, YOU KNOW IT - HOWEVER, WHEN YOU ARE DECEIVED YOU DO NOT KNOW IT - CONTINUE TO ASK, "WHERE AM I AM BEING DECEIVED?"

All error and deception are a form of insanity, Christian mental illness. The deceived mind and will are stubbornly set on worldly unbelief and lies. Error and deception can only be weakened and destroyed when they are faithfully subjected to and lined up against the Word of God. Spirit and Truth must then rule over error and deception to continually live in freedom.

Questionable and Unresolved Biblical Issues – What About Two Truths That Do Not Agree

Have you ever been part of an argument where both parties insist that their opinion is the only possibility? After giving many "proof" texts, each side says it is either their way or it is wrong. Believers can find volumes about unresolved issues reflecting either the pro or con interpretation. **Examples:** Once saved always saved or perpetuity of gifts. Two truths that don't agree cannot disprove validity.

- ❖ Biblical issues and doctrines that are essential but are not unequivocally established in scripture are God's way of keeping a principle from being institutionalized to the point where it would not be Spirit-led activity, spontaneous and verified by **faith**, obedience and love.

- ❖ Dilemma arguments that are not fully explained, force your will to be subservient to God's higher plan, wisdom and grace. Scripture that is obviously not fully explained is meant to keep you out of presumption. It is His way of firmly establishing His Lordship, requiring you to having faith in His wisdom.

Dogmatically clinging to a letter of the law belief system will make you a legalist. **Deuteronomy 29:29** says the secret things belong to Him and the revealed things belong to us. Be content to be totally dependent upon the Lord Himself and not solely dependent on a polarized stand on a few scriptures.

Apply the Both/And Principle for Some Issues

When you find yourself in turmoil over an unresolved biblical issue, consider the both/and principle. There are interpretations that in Truth are not to be explained as being a narrow, either/or situation at all. Instead, understanding must come by acknowledging that the full Truth that comes from considering more than one angle of interpretation from the whole counsel of the Word of God. Understand, two Truths that don't agree cannot disprove validity of either one.

WHEN SCRIPTURE CAN PROVE BOTH SIDES, IT IS THE BOTH/AND PRINCIPLE

Understanding the both/and principle will bring resolve, peace, understanding and balance to many dilemma arguments. Unteachableness because of a polarized, personal, fleshy conviction results when the wisdom and perspective of this principle is rejected. Dilemma questions unnecessarily divide and wound believers, groups and Churches. Consider the spectrum of scriptures that prove both/and principle. **Examples:**

- ❖ God is **both** sovereign **and** has given man free will.
- ❖ Jesus is **both** Divine **and** human.
- ❖ Once saved always saved is true, however even though you can consider that you will never personally lose your salvation, understand that is also true that for some people under different and diverse conditions than yours, may not be saved according to God.
- ❖ Other controversial examples: Jesus' divinity and Jesus' humanity, the need for substantiation from the Word and the validity of supernatural experiences, wine or no wine, pork or no pork, sovereign power or free will, which day is the right day for Sabbath and many other issues.

The Either/Or Principle

Obviously, there are other major issues that do not fit both/and principle. **Examples:** It is **either** God's way **or** the highway for issues concerning Jesus, the Messiah, terms of salvation, forgiveness, carnality, pride, judging and all conditional doctrines and prophecies.

Words to the Wise

- ❖ Growing in hermeneutical skills will bring a wealth of knowledge and a new confidence in the Word of God. Don't get so overconfident that you find yourself in discussions where you end up preaching or arguing over doctrine. Interpretations and doctrines have the power to either divide or unite. Both Truth and error can be shown. The Bible is very politically incorrect! Anytime you are in a discussion where barriers go up as a result of the different convictions, you have gone too far.

- ❖ When discussing scripture, bridges must be built. Peace must rule not proving your point. **Never argue about secondary issues or doctrines that are not “to die for.”** Primary issues that are worth dying for are the basic tenets of orthodox Christian doctrines: The virgin birth, authority of the Blood and Name of the Lord Jesus, His resurrection from the dead, mankind’s sin problem, the need for repentance and Jesus’ second coming. Never compromise on these “worth dying for” doctrines.
- ❖ In discussions, find some common ground you can agree on and if that is not possible, move on. Remember, love unites. Be led by the Spirit and demonstrate the nature and character of Jesus as you testify of your faith and convictions. The doctrine of unity is greater than arguing over any doctrine that brings disunity. Loving your enemy is the only way to oneness.

Learning and Practicing Basic Exegesis

Bible study is the primary tool of deeper study. You are going to find that doing exegesis will take you to a new level of accomplishment in what it means to be approved, a workman who needs not be ashamed. The opposite of studying to show yourself approved is expecting leadership to bring all creative insight, illumination and exhortation. These believers described in scripture desire to have their ears tickled but never handle the scripture for themselves, **II Timothy 4:3-4**. This five-step method of Bible study includes handling scripture, following principles of exegesis and interpretation.

Four categories are to be researched, culminating with the fifth and most important step, practical application.

- ❖ Historical principle
- ❖ Grammatical principle
- ❖ Literal principle
- ❖ Synthesis principle
- ❖ Practical application

The exegesis exercise is finished with the **practical principle of application** using the same criteria for practical applications in Devotional Bible study. Finally, the scripture is written out for memorization.

Explanation of the Four Principles of Exegesis

1. Historical Principle: Look for the cultural, geographical and social conditions at that moment in time. Use the 5 W’s: who, why, what, when and where. Consider the date and political scene of the day, along with facts about the author. See through the author’s eyes, feel his heart, catch his emotion and his spirit with the work of the Spirit of that time. Use historical information in the scripture, a study Bible and outside biblical references.

2. Grammatical Principle: Use a pencil and as much paper as it takes to write out your findings and definitions. Search out and use several of these tools.

- ❖ Circle verbs, especially which point to potential action on your part.
- ❖ Word structure: parts of speech, tense, pronouns, nouns, synonyms, etc.
- ❖ Key words, phrases.
- ❖ Greek and Hebrew meanings of key words.
- ❖ Contrasts, comparison; if different, opposite or similar.

- ❖ Connectives: and, or, if, not, then, as, etc.
- ❖ Expressions of time or units: then, when, after, etc.
- ❖ Terms of conclusions: wherefore, therefore, finally, etc.

3. **Literal Principle:** Literal means, to adhere to facts, free from exaggeration or embellishment

Exegete, lift out, perceive what is stated literally. Determine the immediate context by examining the verses and chapters before and after the passage. Next, consider if the passage has a particular, larger or parallel context. Allow the scripture to interpret itself. Observe:

- ❖ The implication of types and shadows, patterns and symbols, numbers, parallels, prophetic layers of patterns and cycles from beginning to the end of a principle or event. Especially God's love, redemption by blood and Messianic details over the centuries.
- ❖ Determine what the facts of Truth are that **go with the text**. Ask these questions to determine the literal principle then write out the literal, plain, factual observations you have made. A deep commitment to the literal interpretation will eradicate error and presumption.
 - ✓ So, what is the point?
 - ✓ What did it mean then? What does it mean or **not** mean now?

Help for making a literal interpretation – If necessary, remember to use the **both/and principle** to bring the necessary wisdom and perspective.

4. **Synthesis Principle:** Synthesis means:

- ❖ To put together or place in exposition, teaching, preaching or sharing.
- ❖ The composition or combination of parts or elements, so as to form a whole.

This is the exposition and interpretation portion of your study, or in other words your “preach” portion. Using the composite historical, literal and grammatical principles that you have researched:

- ❖ Develop ideas, lessons, moral truths and spiritual principles into a whole presentation that will meet your needs and the needs of your audience. Cross-reference to correlate with any other words to reveal the **whole counsel** of the Word on that subject. There will be some verses that may be duplicated. Others will have the same word or concept but a different context.
- ❖ When you have completed the research, state the theme, purpose, the general and specific truths and your interpretation. Write out pertinent facts that bring a “synthesis” of understanding to the portion of scripture you are studying.
- ❖ Use scripture to interpret scripture to explain any contradictions. Be careful not to lean **exclusively** on commentaries or current popular trends for interpretation. You are a theologian who can hear the voice of the Holy Spirit speaking through the Word for yourself.
- ❖ Review your research. Proceed from a verse to a paragraph, to a segment, to sections and chapters before and after your chosen passage to confirm the synthesis. Be prepared to present your “preach” of illumination and inspiration verbally, with conviction and enthusiasm.

5. Practical Application Principle: Write out the practical application as explained in the Devotional Study exercise after you have completed the four principles of exegesis. The amount of time you have will determine how lengthy this exercise will be.

WHEN PEOPLE ASK YOU ABOUT WHAT HERMENEUTICS IS: SHARE WITH THEM THESE FIVE PRINCIPLES OF EXEGESIS AND ESPECIALLY THE IMPORTANCE OF PERSONAL PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Directions for Doing Your Exegesis Exercise

The purpose of exegesis is to find the **original intent** of a word(s) or a text. Exegesis should be done on all texts, not just selective or problem ones. How to start:

- ❖ Use your own skills.
- ❖ Do not depend upon the "experts," commentaries, reference books, etc.
- ❖ Read carefully; include the verses, paragraphs, sections and chapters before and after the part you are studying.
 - ⇒ Don't start with conclusions. Constantly ask, What is the point?
 - ⇒ Do not start in the "here and now" or you will read into the text meanings that were not originally there. Remember scripture wasn't originally written to us but to them.
 - ⇒ Learn to think in paragraphs not just in words and sentences for correct context.

Concentrate on the Context - Con/text means: To go with the Text

You are never free to inject into a passage what you want. Instead, you must examine the line of the writer's thinking. You are **obligated to understand** the why, when and where of the situation. The writer wrote the words because of the spiritual Truths given to them. Find out the first and main context by searching and examining what the author meant when they wrote it, not what it means to you. Identifying the context will tell you the meaning of a particular word or words. Basic kinds of context situations are:

1. **Immediate Context:** Look at the verses and chapters **before and after** the text that you are studying. Digest both sentences and paragraphs.
2. **Particular and Larger Context:** Check all other places the subject occurs to see the context used there as well.
3. **Parallel Context:** Check for different words that are synonymous, meaning the same thing. Many doctrinal troubles stem from this. **Example:** All the similar phraseology, surrounding the terms about the Holy Spirit which affects the doctrine of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, e.g. indwelt, filled, baptized.
4. **Absence of Context:** Proverbs and Ecclesiastes are isolated with no connection or context.

TAKING THINGS OUT OF CONTEXT IS A PRETEXT – OR WRONG INTERPRETATION

DIRECTIONS FOR YOUR EXEGESIS EXERCISE

1. You will be researching and giving a report on two exegesis exercises. Choose your scriptures from the list on page 39. The first exegesis is to be done on one of the scriptures in the **Crucified Life section**. For your second exegesis, choose any other scripture from the same page.
2. Use a notebook or other scratch paper to do all your research. These “chicken scratch” pages are valuable; do not throw them away! You will be choosing only the best portions for your report.
3. Proceed with research using the principles of exegesis. Write a minimum of a paragraph for each of the following four principles. You are welcome to make it longer if you like.
 - * Historical principle
 - * Grammatical principle
 - * Literal principle
 - * Synthesis principle
4. When you have completed your research, transfer your edited final thoughts on fresh paper to read from. The first page of your report must begin with the scripture you have chosen, written out verbatim.
5. **The cover page of this exercise must be the Exegesis form provided for you on page 35 and 37.** Do not make and use a copy of the cover page. Your practical application is to be written out on the provided cover page. Finally, staple the Exegesis cover sheet to your final research papers.
6. Your exegesis report (not the cover sheet) can be done on the computer or handwritten.

DEVOTIONAL STUDY

DATE _____ 20 ____

PRAYER: _____

SCRIPTURE: _____ CIRCLE KEY WORDS AND PHRASES

SPACE PETS:	_____ S in to confess	_____ P rayer to pray	KEY WORDS OF CONVICTION:
	_____ P romise to claim	_____ E rror to correct or avoid	
	_____ A ttitude to change	_____ T ruth to believe	
	_____ C ommand to obey	_____ S omething to believe God for	
	_____ E xample to follow		

PERSONALIZED DUMP: Honest observation, insight, conviction and evaluation of yourself in light of this scripture

OBSERVATION:

INSIGHT:

CONVICTION:

EVALUATION:

PERSONALIZED PRACTICAL APPLICATION – Personal, practical, possible “I” statements; I will, I will not, I commit, I refuse

GIMMICK

TITLE

FULL OR PARTIAL SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

DEVOTIONAL STUDY

DATE _____ 20____

PRAYER: _____

SCRIPTURE: _____ CIRCLE KEY WORDS AND PHRASES

SPACE PETS:	_____ S in to confess	_____ P rayer to pray	KEY WORDS OF CONVICTION:
	_____ P romise to claim	_____ E rror to correct or avoid	
	_____ A ttitude to change	_____ T ruth to believe	
	_____ C ommand to obey	_____ S omething to believe God for	
	_____ E xample to follow		

PERSONALIZED DUMP: Honest observation, insight, conviction and evaluation of yourself in light of this scripture

OBSERVATION:

INSIGHT:

CONVICTION:

EVALUATION:

PERSONALIZED PRACTICAL APPLICATION – Personal, practical, possible “I” statements; I will, I will not, I commit, I refuse

GIMMICK

TITLE _____

FULL OR PARTIAL SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

EXEGESIS BIBLE STUDY EXERCISE

TITLE _____ DATE _____

PRAYER:

SCRIPTURE:

Use Your Own Paper to write out your research of these four principles:

1. Historical Principle
2. Grammatical Principle
3. Literal Principle
4. Synthesis Principle

PERSONALIZED PRACTICAL APPLICATION

GIMMICK

FULL OR PARTIAL SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

EXEGESIS BIBLE STUDY EXERCISE

TITLE _____ DATE _____

PRAYER:

SCRIPTURE:

Use Your Own Paper to write out your research of these four principles:

1. Historical Principle
2. Grammatical Principle
3. Literal Principle
4. Synthesis Principle

PERSONALIZED PRACTICAL APPLICATION

GIMMICK

FULL OR PARTIAL SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

SCRIPTURES FOR DEVOTIONAL STUDY AND EXEGESIS

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

I CORINTHIANS 12:4
I CORINTHIANS 12:11
I CORINTHIANS 14:1
I CORINTHIANS 14:12
ROMANS 12:6

CRUCIFIED LIFE

ROMANS 6:1-14 Choose one
ROMANS 7:1-14 Choose one
ROMANS 7:17
ROMANS 8:1
ROMANS 8:6
ROMANS 8:9-13
ROMANS 13:14
I CORINTHIANS 3:1 AMP
I CORINTHIANS 15:31
GALATIANS 2:20
GALATIANS 2:21
GALATIANS 4:22-24
GALATIANS 5:15-19
GALATIANS 5:20, 24
COLOSSIANS 3:1-4
COLOSSIANS 3:5
COLOSSIANS 3:9-10
PHILIPPIANS 3:2-3
I PETER 1:13

LED BY THE SPIRIT AND RELATED SUBJECTS

JOB 12:11
PSALM 29
PSALM 37:7
ISAIAH 50:4
JOHN 3:34
JOHN 15:7 AMP
JOHN 16:7 AMP
JOHN 16:13-15
ROMANS 8:13
ROMANS 8:14
ROMANS 8:16
I CORINTHIANS 1:5
I CORINTHIANS 2:10-16
I CORINTHIANS 6:17
II CORINTHIANS 1:5
II CORINTHIANS 1:21
II CORINTHIANS 3:17
COLOSSIANS 3:1-3
I PETER 4:10
I TIMOTHY 4:14-15
EPHESIANS 4:19-24
I THESSALONIANS 5:19
I PETER 4:6b
HEBREWS 5:11

CHARACTER, HUMILITY AND MEEKNESS

JOB 2:3 b
JOB 2:9-10
PSALM 9:12
PSALM 10:17
PSALM 25:9
PSALM 37:1
PSALM 86:1
PSALM 131:1-2
PROVERBS 11:2
PROVERBS 15:33
PROVERBS 16:19
PROVERBS 18:12
PROVERBS 22:4
PROVERBS 27:2
PROVERBS 30:32
ECCLESIASTES 5:2
ISAIAH 66:2
JEREMIAH 45:5
MATTHEW 18:2
MATTHEW 20:26
LUKE 1:52
LUKE 14:10
LUKE 17:10
JOHN 13:10
ROMANS 12:3
I CORINTHIANS 1:28
I CORINTHIANS 13:4
II CORINTHIANS 3:5
II CORINTHIANS 12:7-10
GALATIANS 5:26
EPHESIANS 4:2
EPHESIANS 5:21
PHILIPPIANS 2:3-8
COLOSSIANS 3:12
JAMES 4:6
JAMES 4:10
I PETER 5:3-6

THE PROPHET

NUMBERS 11:23-29
PSALM 45:1
AMOS 3:7-8
II CHRONICLES 20:20b
II KINGS 3:15
JEREMIAH 1:5
JEREMIAH 15:19
JEREMIAH 20:7-10
JEREMIAH 23:18
JEREMIAH 23:28-29
JEREMIAH 42:1-22
ZACHARIAH 10:2
MATTHEW 23:34
JAMES 5:10

THE WORD / DOCTRINE

I KINGS 8:56
PSALM 119:97-100
ISAIAH 55:11
ISAIAH 46:9-10
EZEKIEL 12:25
HABAKKUK 2:3
JOHN 8:31b NKJV
II TIMOTHY 2:15
II TIMOTHY 3:16-17
TITUS 1:9
ACTS 17:11
II CORINTHIANS 4:1-2
II CORINTHIANS 7:1

CALLING

ISAIAH 45:9
I SAMUEL 15
II PETER 1:4-11
II PETER 1:10
JOHN 3:27 NLT
I CORINTHIANS 1:26
I CORINTHIANS 9:16-18
EPHESIANS 4:1-4
ROMANS 10:14-15
ROMANS 12:11

SUFFERING

JOB 1:21-22
JOB 2:10b
JOB 12:11
PSALM 66:10-12
PSALM 119:71 TLB
ISAIAH 53:4
ISAIAH 48:10-11
ROMANS 8:26
I CORINTHIANS 4:12
I CORINTHIANS 11:31-32
II CORINTHIANS 1:7
PHILIPPIANS 1:12
PHILIPPIANS 3:19
COLOSSIANS 1:24
II TIMOTHY 2:12
HEBREWS 2:18
HEBREWS 5:8
HEBREWS 12:10-11 ff
I PETER 2:21
I PETER 3:18
I PETER 4:1
I JOHN 3:16

NOTE: IF YOU FIND ANOTHER SCRIPTURE IN ONE OF THE CATEGORIES THAT YOU WANT TO USE, PLEASE ASK IF IT IS APPROPRIATE TO USE.

Evaluating the Positives and the Negatives of Your Hermeneutic Work

Questions to Answer

1. Has this lesson aided your beliefs to be more non-negotiable? ___Y___N
2. Has this lesson aided in making you think more critically? ___Y___N
3. Has this lesson aided you to understand more systematically? ___Y___N
4. Has this lesson caused you to know that you can study to show yourself approved, a workman that need not be ashamed? ___Y___N

What was the one most important scripture you have handled?

Scripture _____

What did it reveal to you?

How has it changed and matured you?

Describe your very first experience of doing exegesis.

Describe your experience the second time around.

Write about the benefit of adding Devotionals to your life.

Write about the benefit of adding Exegesis to your life.

Express or write your insight on the following statement:

I am one person in the living body of Christ, the *ekklesia*, the Church, who is the most powerful people group on earth because we are the mouthpiece for the Word of God.