

## Inductive Bible Study Steps

1. Prayer
2. Read the chapter
3. OBSERVATION

### Ask the 5 W's and H

- **Who** is speaking? Who is this about? Who are the main characters? To whom is he speaking?
- **What** is the subject or event covered in the chapter? What do you learn about the people, event, or teaching?
- **When** do/will the events occur or did/will something happen to someone in particular?
- **Where** did or will this happen? Where was it said?
- **Why** is something being said or mentioned? Why would/will this happen? Why at that time/to that person?
- **How** did/will this event happen? How did/will the people respond?

4. Mark key words and phrases.
5. Look for lists.
6. Watch for contrasts and comparisons
7. Note expressions of time (until, then, when, after, etc.).
8. Note terms of conclusion (wherefore, finally, for this reason, therefore, etc.).
9. Develop chapter themes. Don't rely on the ones in your Bible but know the chapter well enough to be able to summarize it in a short sentence.

## Inductive Bible Study Steps (cont.)

### 10. INTERPRETATION

- Context always takes precedence.
- Always seek the full counsel of the Word of God. Compare and contrast similar passages.
- Scripture will NEVER contradict Scripture.
- Don't base your interpretation on an obscure passage of Scripture taken out of context. (If the meaning of the passage is unclear then don't base your convictions on it).
- Take the Word of God at face value. Learn to recognize and understand figures of speech and literary styles.
- Look for what is clearly taught, don't try to twist Scripture to teach something that is not in that passage. Look for what the author is communicating.

### 11. APPLICATION

- Once we know what Scripture says, we have an obligation to accept that truth and live by it.
- What actions do you need to take now that you have a better understanding of Scripture?

### **RESOURCES:**

[precept.org](http://precept.org) - home for the Inductive Bible Study materials and Bibles (can also purchase most of these items on Amazon)

[preceptcamden.com](http://preceptcamden.com) - lists of keywords and the markings (listed alphabetically)