

Observing A Passage of Scripture

Use the following list of questions to help guide you in your search of Scripture. You probably won't use every question for each passage you study, but at least they provide a good starting point. The more completely you can answer these questions, the better you will observe God's truth, which then provides a strong foundation for interpretation and application.

- Who is the author of the passage?
- Whom is the author addressing? (God's people? A specific church? Unbelievers?)
- What is the most important term and/or concept of the passage?
- What are the main verbs? What are the tenses of those verbs?
- Are there terms you need to define so you can better understand the passage?
- Are there people or places you need to identify?
- What do you know already about the people and/or places mentioned?
- Can you identify any cause-effect relationships in the author's writing?
- In what ways does the passage apply to your own personal life? (If there isn't an obvious application, is there a more subtle one?)
- What things from this passage might you want to study later in further detail?