

STUDYING THE BIBLE (...SLOW DOWN)

Name: _____ Today's Date: _____

Scripture / Text:

1.) Pray

(Pray for clarity, Invite God in, Ask God to speak to you through the Word)

2.) Read

(Read slowly, aloud. If possible, read the entire book in one sitting first to get the big picture)

3.) Listen

(Meditate on what you just read, What is God saying? What jumps out to you?)

4.) Write

(What you heard, How will you apply the Word?)

5.) Pray

(Thank God for speaking to you through the Word, Ask for help to live the Word you received)

Author:

Key Themes / Concepts:

Date Written:

Key Verses / Phrases / Words (What jumps out at you? What is repeated?):

Location:

Questions for the Text:

Audience:

Emotions from the Text (see back):

Purpose:

Notes / Observations (What does this passage mean in context to the original hearers?):

Key People:

Take Away / Interpretation (What does this passage mean for you?):

Genre (see back):

Response / Application: (In light of this word, I will _____ ; I will do it (when)_____)

What emotions does this text evoke?

- Fear
- Anger
- Sadness
- Joy
- Love
- Disgust
- Trust
- Anticipation
- Surprise
- Jealousy
- Envy
- Terror
- Lust
- Hatred
- Greed
- Covetousness
- Depression
- Guilt
- Pride
- Vengeance
- Loneliness
- Contentment
- Humiliation
- Etc.

Different Genres in the Bible¹

History or Narrative: Stories and the epics (i.e. Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Jonah, and Acts)

Law: Instructions and precepts of God given through Moses, such as Leviticus and Deuteronomy

Wisdom: Literature of short statements and sayings such as Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes

Poetry: Prose and rhymes such as Psalms, Song of Solomon, and Lamentations

Prophecy: Include both major and minor prophets such as Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi

Apocalyptic: Combinations of narrative and prose written in vivid imagery and poetic phrases that are intended to exaggerate for a purpose such as Daniel and most of Revelation

Gospels: Presents the teachings, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus in a distinctive way based on the original audience (Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John)

Parable: Sayings of Jesus that are narrative and instructional contained in the Gospels.

Epistle: Letters written to a specific audience such as Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Thessalonians, Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, Peter, John, and the first three chapters of Revelation

Romance: Narrative written also as love stories, such as Ruth and Song of Solomon

¹ Adapted from: <http://www.intotheword.org/apps/articles/default.asp?articleid=31435>