

# What is Inductive Bible Study?

Inductive Bible study is a way of studying Scripture that is both *easy* and *valuable* to new and seasoned Christians alike. It asks three questions about each passage of Scripture you read:

- What does this passage say? (Observation.)
- What does this passage mean? (Interpretation.)
- How can I apply this to my life? (Application.)

This is a way of simply letting Scripture interpret Scripture.

In the observation question, all you do is write out what you notice while you read. Who is in this passage? What do they say or do? Where does this passage take place? Are there words that are repeated multiple times? Are there any emphasis words? What other details do you notice?

Observation seems simple because literally all you do is look in the Bible and write down what you see, but this is the most-skipped step. However, it is easy to miss something if we don't pause and dig deep into what we see. So it is important.

In the interpretation question, we take what we observed and ask *how* and *why*. This is where we pull the deeper meaning out of the passage we've just read.

Part of the interpretation section is looking at the context of the passage. While observation only uses the Bible, interpretation can (but does not have to) use other resources such as concordances and commentaries. The goal of this step is to find out what the author was saying.

In the application question, we are asking how this will change our life. The observation and interpretation sections should be about the same from person to person, but the application question will be personal and Spirit-led. It will vary between people.

Inductive Bible study is great to use for personal use or group Bible study.

# Why is Inductive Bible Study Important?

Inductive Bible study is not the only way to study Scripture. This is just one tool that can be used. The important thing is that Christians and people learning about Jesus are digging into the Bible and learning what Scripture says.

I love inductive Bible study because it's so easy. Anyone can do it, and it's easy to remember three steps. It's also easy to learn a lot by using this method, whether someone is a new Christian or has been a Christian his or her whole life. I have personally used this method, then realized that a passage of Scripture that is often preached one way had been taken out of context!

Another important step of studying the Bible is praying – before, after, during – the study. Allow the Spirit to teach you what He wants to tell you.

I pray this packet of notes helps you learn more about the Bible and God. Please let me know what you think!

# Bible Study Notes

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Passage Read \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Summary.....  
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Things I observed.....  
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What is important about my observations  
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How I apply what I observed .....  
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What does this passage teach you about God's character? .....  
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How does this passage point you to Jesus?  
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Write out a prayer: .....  
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# Book Reflection

Today's Date:

Book of the Bible:

Theme(s) in the book.....  
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Key characters and why they are important: .....  
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Key Bible verses in this book.....  
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Write out a prayer.  
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Bible Memory Verse  
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# Verses for Bible Study

I encourage you to cut out these Bible memory cards. Tape them where you will see them, especially around wherever you plan to read the Bible. Memorize them. Pray them before, during, and/or after you study the Bible to help the Bible become more alive to you.

Also included are blank memory cards for you to write Bible verses on you want to memorize

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"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness."

- 2 Timothy 3:16, ESV

"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joint and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

- Hebrews 4:12, ESV

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

- Psalm 119:105, ESV

"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

- James 1:22, ESV

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

- Isaiah 40:8, ESV

"This God – his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; he is a shield for all who take refuge in him."

- Psalm 18:30, ESV

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

- John 1:1, ESV

"But he [Jesus] answered, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."'"

- Matthew 4:4, ESV

Write out Bible verses you want to memorize and put them where you will see them often.

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