

Basic Principles for Bible Study:

1. The secret of impactful Bible study lessons is knowing how to ask the right kinds of questions of the Scripture.

(Each different lesson format will direct you to ask different types of questions.)

2. Impactful Bible study lessons require that you study the scripture before you teach it. The lesson will come through what you have written of your observations and discoveries (Yes, you need to write it out).

3. The ultimate goal of impactful Bible study lessons is **APPLICATION** not just interpretation. It is possible to know the Word of God and not know the God of the Word.

“The Bible was not given to increase our knowledge, but to change our lives.”

—Dwight L. Moody—

The real problem for most of us is not with interpreting difficult passages but with obeying the passages we do understand.

Applications should be:

- Personal: “I need to...”
- Practical: “I need to lose some weight.”
- Possible: “I need to lose 10 pounds.”
- Provable: “I need to lose 10 pounds before the end of the month.”

4. Impactful Bible study lessons require God’s Word to be studied systematically. Haphazard study is an insult to the sanctity of Scripture and a slap at the holiness of God. Don’t draw conclusions before you take in all possible information.

Observe→Ask→Interpret→Relate→Apply

Search your heart before you search the Scripture.

You will never exhaust the riches in any one passage of Scripture—keep digging!

If you have any questions or encounter any challenges, ask your resource leader or someone on XA staff!