

Core Classes

Unit 1: Foundations

Class 2: How to Read the Bible

Week 3: Observation Practice Worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions

For each section below:

1. Read the assigned passages carefully.
2. Focus on the **specific principle of observation** listed.
3. Write down what you notice.

Your goal is not interpretation yet, but to **observe what is actually in the text**.

1. **Before you begin: Pray**
2. **Read the Passage Carefully and Repeatedly - Colossians 3:12–17**

Read the passage at least 3 times.

What stands out to you after repeated reading?

What did you notice on the second or third reading that you missed at first?

Are there any words or phrases that seem emphasized?

3. **Identify the Boundaries of the Passage**

Passage: Matthew 6:25–34

Where do you think the unit of thought begins and ends?

Beginning: _____

Ending: _____

Why do you think this is one complete unit of thought?

What larger subject is Jesus addressing in this section?

4. Record Your First Impressions

Passage: Psalm 27

What are your first observations?

What words, images, or emotions stand out immediately?

What questions come to mind as you read?

5. Identify the Literary Form

Passage A: Judges 7:1–8

Passage B: Proverbs 3:5–6

What kind of writing is Judges 7:1–8?

- Narrative
- Poetry
- Wisdom
- Prophecy
- Epistle / Letter
- Teaching
- Other: _____

What kind of writing is Proverbs 3:5–6?

- Narrative
- Poetry

- Wisdom
- Prophecy
- Epistle / Letter
- Teaching
- Other: _____

How does the literary form affect the way you read each passage?

6. Pay Attention to Literary Signals

Passage: Malachi 1:6–14

Do you see any contrasts in the passage?

Are there any repeated ideas, questions, or accusations?

What does the repetition or contrast help emphasize?

7. Observe the Flow and Structure of the Passage

Passage: Romans 5:1–11

How does the passage move from one idea to the next?

Can you divide the passage into sections?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Does the passage move from problem to solution, explanation to result, or some other pattern?

8. Make Simple Lists

Passage: Titus 3:3–7

What does this passage say about people?

What does it say about God's character and actions?

9. Ask Questions of the Text

Passage: Luke 5:17–26

Who? Who are the main people in the passage?

What? What is happening in the story?

Where? Where does this event take place?

When? Is there anything in the timing or setting that seems important?

Why? Why does Jesus say and do what He does?

How? How does the story unfold? What is the sequence of events?

10. Look for Key Words and Important Details

Passage: Titus 3:3–7

What words seem especially important?

Are there any repeated or theologically significant terms?

What details seem central to the message of the passage?

11. Pay Attention to the Grammar of the Text

Passage: 1 Peter 1:3–9

What important verbs do you notice?

What connective words do you see?

(Examples: though, so that, because, for, but, therefore)

What do those words help you understand?

10. Study the Context Carefully

Passage: Romans 8:28

What is happening in the surrounding context of this verse?

Who is being described or addressed in this passage?

How does the context help you understand this verse more accurately?
