

Core Classes

Unit 1 - Foundations

Course 2 - How to Read the Bible

Observation Practice Worksheet of Ephesians 2:1-10

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions

Read your passage carefully several times before filling out this worksheet. Your goal is not to interpret or apply the passage yet, but simply to **observe what is there**.

Ask yourself: **What does this passage say?**

1. Before You Begin: Pray

2. Read the Passage Carefully and Repeatedly

After reading the passage several times, what stands out to you?

Did reading it more than once help you notice anything new?

3. Identify the Boundaries of the Passage

Where do you think this passage begins and ends?

Beginning: _____

Ending: _____

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

4. Record Your First Impressions

What are your first observations?

(Examples: repeated words, tone, key ideas, unusual details, questions)

5. Identify the Literary Form

What kind of writing is this?

- Narrative
- Poetry
- Wisdom
- Prophecy
- Apocalyptic
- Parable
- Epistle / Letter
- Law
- Teaching / Instruction
- Other: _____

How does that help you read the passage?

6. Pay Attention to Literary Signals

What words or details seem especially important?

Are there any repeated words or phrases?

Do you see any comparisons or contrasts?

Are there any words, customs, or ideas you need to study further?

Are there any illustrations, figures of speech, or vivid images?

7. Observe the Flow and Structure of the Passage

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

Can you divide the passage into sections?

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

8. Make Simple Lists

About People

About God

9. Ask Questions of the Text

Who?

Who is speaking, acting, or being addressed?

What?

What is happening? What is being said, commanded, promised, or explained?

Where?

Where does this take place? Does the setting matter?

When?

When does this happen? Is timing important?

Why?

Why is this being said or done?

How?

How does the passage develop its message?

10. Look For Key Words and Important Details

Important Words:

Repeated/Theological Terms

11. Pay Attention to Grammar and Connective Words

Are there any important verbs (actions, commands, states of being)?

Are there any important connecting words?

(Examples: and, but, for, because, therefore, if, so that)

What do those connecting words help you see?

12. Study the Context Carefully

Immediate Context

What comes before this passage?

What comes after this passage?

How does the surrounding context help you understand this passage?

Broader Biblical Context

Are there any other Bible passages that help explain this one?
