

## OBSERVE

*What do you see?*

- What words are being used, how are they used elsewhere in the Bible
- How do the words, tense, sequence & structure of the passage point towards meaning
- Understand the context & culture: setting, time, distance & atmosphere of the passage
- Default to literal unless reference materials call out as figurative
- Who are the people, what other books of the Bible lead up to this or speak to this same passage



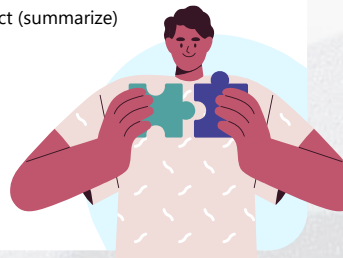
*Be patient,  
prayerful &  
purposeful in  
your reading*

## INTERPRET

*What does it mean?*

- What questions come to mind & what can you discover by digging deeper into the Word
- Dissect (create a chart) and Reconstruct (summarize) the passage so its meaning resonates
- Make use of reference material, i.e. biblehub.com, concordance, Bible dictionary, maps, commentaries, etc.

*While there are many observations, there is just one meaning-be cautious not to unwittingly distort*



## APPLY

*What are the implications for me/others?*

- Seek to be transformed by the proper interpretation of the Word
- Make a specific plan and seek out accountability in the tracking of progress to your plan
- Your applications should correlate with Scripture, speak to the needs & problems of life today, indicate a course of action and should be supported by other believers

*Put your understanding into action*

