

## **“Cheat Sheet” on How to Effectively Do a Verse-by-Verse Analysis Bible Study**

*This type of Bible study is useful when you don't have time for an in-depth study. Rather than doing an extensive job on book survey, chapter survey, chapter analysis, or book synthesis, this approach takes each verse and examines it from five viewpoints, using the Analysis Form.*

### **The Five Things you will do with each verse:**

1. Write a personal paraphrase of it.
2. List some questions and whatever answers you find.
3. Find some cross-references for it.
4. Write down some insights you have discovered.
5. Write out a brief personal application.

### **Definition**

This method involves selecting a passage of Scripture and examining it in detail by asking questions, finding cross-references, and paraphrasing each verse. We then record a possible, personal application for each verse we study.

### **TOOLS**

- A study Bible
- An exhaustive concordance
- A Bible dictionary and/or encyclopedia
- A set of word studies

### **GETTING READY TO DO IT**

To begin, select the passage you want to analyze verse-by-verse. In our class example we will look at 1 Timothy 1:1-3. Work through the passage in a logical order, writing out your first verse in the first space in column 1, second verse in the second space, and so forth. You will need as many Forms (or your own paper on which you have drawn 6 columns) as there are verses in the chapter you are studying.

## **SIMPLE STEPS ON DOING A VERSE-BY-VERSE ANALYSIS**

### **STEP ONE**

#### **Personal Paraphrase**

Write out a verse in your own words. Do not use one of the modern paraphrases except to get the idea of how to do it. Stay true to the verse you are paraphrasing, and try to condense rather than expand it.

### **STEP TWO**

#### **List some Questions, Answers, and Observations**

In Column 3 of the Form list any questions you have relating to words, phrases, persons, topics, and doctrines in that verse. Write down any answers you can find and also record any observations you have. Mark these as follows:

Q = Question

A = Answer

O = Observations

### **STEP THREE**

#### **Find Some Cross-References for Each Verse**

Using the cross-references from your study Bible or from Scripture memory, write down some cross-references (at least one) for the verse you are studying. Identify the word or phrase you are cross-referencing. Use a concordance if you do not have a cross-referenced Bible.

### **STEP FOUR**

#### **Record Any Insight You Get from Each Verse**

Having thought through the words, phrases, and concepts in the verse, record any insights that you get from them. These could be further observations, words and names that you have looked up and defined, or any other through that comes to you. Let your imagination go and be as creative as you can in this fifth column, called Personal Application, in the Form.

### **STEP FIVE**

#### **Write Down a Brief Personal Application for Each Verse**

Because of the number of verse in your study, you will not be able to design an application project for each verse. Rather, just try to record some devotional thoughts that come to you from each verse. Later, you can pick one of the thoughts and write out an application that is possible, practical, personal, and measurable.