

MANUSCRIPT BIBLE STUDY

Pray that God will meet you in his living Word.

OBSERVATION

Read the text once slowly to yourself as if you were reading it for the first time, then start reading again and divide the text into smaller paragraphs. Give each paragraph a title.

Mark:

- the main characters
- time and place of events
- repetitions (ideas, words, construction...)
- causal relationships
- contrasts
- metaphors
- conjunctions, links (but, and, immediately...)
- associations with other biblical texts
- everything that is unexpected or unusual
- ambiguities (write the questions you have)

INTERPRETATION

Look again at everything you marked.

What are the main connections in the passage?

Try to find (ask) more questions than the ones you have already written down. Which of these questions are important?

Try to find answers to them.

Ask yourself the "big question": What did the author intend to communicate to the readers?

Why is this text in the Bible?

Write a list of the main topics in the text.

Give a title to the whole text.

Try to write the main message in one comprehensive sentence.

APPLICATION

Think and pray over the text - connect it with your life.

Do you feel God speaking into any part of your life?

Are you experiencing what some of the characters in this story survived?

Is there a promise you need to believe, a commandment you need to fulfill, an example you need to follow or avoid?

Is there a deeper insight into God or your experience with God?

What do you intend to do in response to what God is telling you?



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