

Digging Deeper:

3. Pause to Pray. John 16:13 says, "When He, the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth." Truth is revealed by the Spirit, so begin with prayer and continue in prayer.
4. Let's study Micah chapter 2. Read the chapter repeatedly, looking for any of the above seven Laws of Structure (you may or may not find all seven in any particular text). Note your observations below.
 - a. Comparison. Don't just note that there is a comparison, but take note of what is being compared and what the point of similarity is.
 - b. Contrast. Again, note what two things are being contrasted as well as what the point of distinction is.
 - c. Reason. Do you see any statement that clarifies the reason why something occurred?
 - d. Purpose or Result. Any instances?
 - e. Means. Is there any instrument or agency identified?
 - f. Cause and Effect. Where do you see both the cause and the effect stated?
 - g. Timing or Sequence. Any examples of this?

Let's Pray:

Notes

June 24, 2018

This Sunday we will hear from a number of missionaries, both short- and long-term. Below is space to record thoughts and prayer requests.

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 06-24-18

Getting Started:

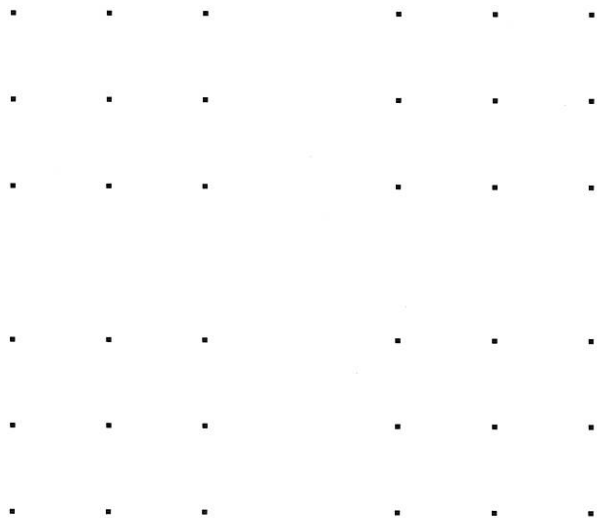
Begin by Learning to See!

"The first skill you need to develop is to train your mind to see when you read a passage – to observe carefully the words, to be on the alert for the details. Too many of us are in the habit of reading Scripture without seeing very much, without thinking about the words we are seeing. ... Because of inaccurate and careless observations, we often make faulty interpretations and shallow applications.

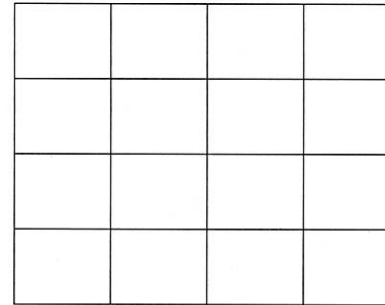
...Observation demands concentration! The purpose of observation is to saturate yourself thoroughly with the content of the passage. Like a sponge you should absorb everything that is before you.

...One reason we do not 'see' very much when we read is that we do not know what to look for. ...Once we learn what are some of the specific things to observe, we will begin to discover things in our reading that we never saw before." (Oletta Wald, The Joy of Discovery in Bible Study, Revised Edition, Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis, MN, 1975, pp. 16).

1. The Nine Dots Exercise. Without lifting your pen from the paper, draw four straight, connected lines that go through each dot only once. After you've tried two different ways, consider what restrictions you might be setting up for yourself in solving this problem.



2. How many squares do you see below?



(Howard G. & William D. Hendricks, Living By the Book, Moody Press, Chicago, 1991, p. 49)

Study Hint

"Detecting structure is a critical step in the Bible study process. When we get to Interpretation, we're going to ask, 'What does this text mean?' But we'll never be able to answer that question accurately until we've answered the observational question, 'What do I see?' Structure is the doorway to understanding an author's purpose." (Hendricks, p. 119)

Knowing what to look for when reading is crucial. Here are some Laws of Structure for which you want to be on the lookout. This is the first half of a longer list. Let's begin with these first, and next week we'll add some more.

Laws of Structure	Description
Comparison	Two or more elements that are alike or similar (key terms: <i>like, as, too, also, than, likewise</i>)
Contrast	Two or more elements that are unlike or dissimilar (key terms: <i>but, yet, however</i>)
Reason	A basis or cause for some belief, action, fact, or event (key terms: <i>because, due to, for this reason</i>)
Purpose or Result	A declaration of the outcome, whether intended/desired ("purpose") or not ("result") (key terms: <i>so that, in order that, for the purpose of</i>)
Means	An agency, instrument, or method used to attain an end (key terms: <i>by, by means of, through</i>)
Cause & effect	One event, concept, or action that causes another (key terms: <i>therefore, so, then, as a result</i>)
Timing or Sequence	Order of succession (key terms: <i>then, after this, until, when</i>)

(Adapted from Howard G. & William D. Hendricks, Living By the Book, Moody Press, Chicago, 1991, p. 49; Robert Traina, Methodical Bible Study, Francis Asbury Press, Grand Rapids, MI, 1985, pp. 50-52; Kay Arthur, How to Study Your Bible, Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, OR, 1994, p. 43-55).