

Inductive Bible Study

Purpose:

Successful completion of this course will satisfy ABWE's requirement for all of its incoming missionaries to understand the essential methods of Bible study, so that they can interpret Bible passages accurately. We have longer versions of this course for those wishing to explore the aspects of genre and their impact on interpretation.

Course Objectives:

1. Understand the difference in English Bible translations and the approaches of various translations.
2. Be able to choose a good Bible translation for personal study and recognize the need to compare translations in English when studying the Bible.
3. Know the basic journey of interpretation in the 5 steps covered in *Grasping God's Word*.
4. Be able to analyze connections between sentences in the Biblical text.
5. Be able to understand the flow of paragraphs and apply these practices in Biblical interpretation.
6. Be able to apply the principles of analyzing discourses when studying the Biblical text.
7. Understand the importance of historical context and literary context when studying the Bible.
8. Understand the basics of word studies when studying the Biblical text.
9. Understand basic principles for making faithful applications of the Bible to the present day and recognize the role of the Holy Spirit in application.

Course Textbook:

4th (2020) Edition of *Grasping God's Word: A Hands-On Approach to Reading, Interpreting, and Applying the Bible* by J. Scott Duvall and J. Daniel Hays (Zondervan, 2020).

Please purchase a copy of the textbook. The reading and assignments are from the textbook.

This course will work through chapters 1-9 and 12-13 of the book. Assignments for each chapter should be submitted in Moodle. Please read Moodle carefully because we do not always assign all the activities at the end of each chapter. Only submit the assignments we ask for.

For the activities on Word studies, we recommend using the *Zondervan NIV Exhaustive Concordance* by Edward W. Goodrick and John R. Kohlenberger (Zondervan, 1999). However, there are digital search tools available online at places like Biblegateway.com and Biblestudystoos.com

Software programs like Logos and Accordance also have the ability to do concordance searches.

Evaluation Procedures

Assignment in the course will consist of activities that demonstrate the student's achievement of the course goals & objectives. These activities are found in the textbook. Your assigned course proctor will evaluate your assignments and assess the quality of your work in the course. As you work with your proctor:

- Please make sure that your name is on each paper you send to your proctor for grading.
- Be sure to write your answers clearly and legibly, with a black pen, or type them in a Word document.
- Be sure to identify each assignment number and your name on the paper.
- If you are taking the course with your spouse, please submit your assignments separately.

This course is **not** offered for credit with institutions outside of ABWE.