



The OIA Study Method

Observe • Interpret • Apply



Overview

Every great Bible study begins with seeing what's in the text, understanding what it means, and living it out. The OIA method—Observe, Interpret, Apply—slows you down, focuses your attention, and keeps your conclusions grounded in the text itself.

1. OBSERVE — What does the text say?

- Read the passage multiple times; consider multiple translations.
- Note repeated words, contrasts, commands, and transitions.
- Ask: Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?
- Mark anything that stands out or raises a question.

2. INTERPRET — What does it mean?

- Examine context: historical, literary, and biblical.
- Look for the author's intent and the passage's main idea.
- Compare Scripture with Scripture — let the Bible interpret the Bible.
- Avoid inserting yourself into the story too quickly.

3. APPLY — How should I respond?

- Identify the timeless truth revealed in the passage.
- Ask: How does this change my beliefs, values, or actions?
- Encourage practical obedience rooted in grace, not guilt.
- End your study with prayer and surrender.

The OIA Method keeps your study honest and fruitful: see the text, grasp the meaning, and live the truth.

Because there's always Truth in the Text.