

Discovering God's Word Together with *Agape Moms*

1. Context

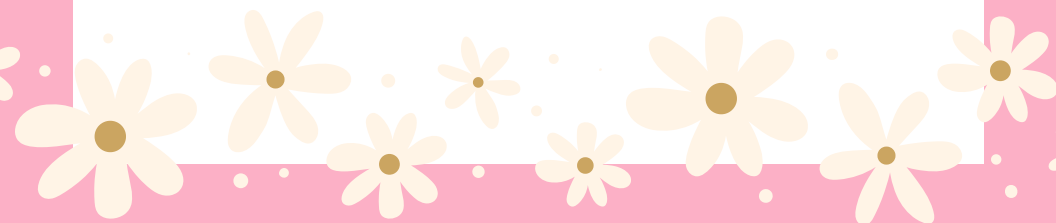
Ask: What is the original context?

- Lookup the historical background in a study Bible or commentary. (Blue Letter Bible App, preceptaustin.com, biblehub.com, logos.com)
- Who was the original writer and why was he writing to the original audience?
- Read scripture in context, historically and verse by verse, instead of out of context.

2. Observe

Ask: What does it say?

- Prayer. Begin by asking the Holy Spirit to illuminate God's truth to you.
- Repetition. Read the text multiple times in different versions. (ESV, NASB, NIV)
- Ask the 5 W's & H: Who, what, when, where, why and how?
- Observe. Look for words that are repeated, contrast each other, specific details and transitional words (therefore, but) and discover their significance. (What is the therefore, there for?)
- Ask questions. Write down questions and seek answers with prayer, cross-referencing, Bible dictionaries, and commentaries.
- Outline. Identify the main ideas and flow of thought with a simple outline.



3. Interpret

Ask: What does it mean?

- What does this passage teach me about God?
- What does passage teach me about people, and myself specifically?
- What did this passage mean for the original audience?
- What is the universal truth, theme, or command?

4. Apply

Ask: How does this scripture affect me?

- How does this passage instruct what I know (head), how I should feel (heart), and what I should do (hands)?

5. Gospel Fluency Questions

Ask: How does the gospel empower me to apply God's truth by the power of the Holy Spirit instead of in my own strength?

- What lies am I believing about myself or God?
- What scriptures help me replace these lies with God's truth?
- What scriptures help me combat my "root" sin before my "fruit" sin?
- How is Jesus better than anything I'm lacking?

