## **Trading The Spoon For The Fork**

## **Inductive Bible Study**

Inductive Bible study is a method of studying the Bible that allows you to <u>discover</u> for yourself what Scripture <u>says</u>, what it <u>means</u>, and how to <u>apply</u> its truths to your life.

Inductive Bible study uses the Bible as its primary source of information about the Bible.

## What is the main goal of inductive Bible study?

The main goal of the inductive Bible study method is to draw you into personal <u>interaction</u> with the Bible and thus with God! By <u>knowing</u> God through knowing His <u>Word</u>—and living by the truths the Holy Spirit reveals to you through Scripture—your life will radically change.

- A. Inductive Bible study involves three components: <u>observation</u>, <u>interpretation</u>, and <u>application</u>.
  - a. Observation: What does the Bible say?
  - b. Interpretation: What does the Bible mean?
  - c. Application: How does the Bible apply to my life today?
    - 1. Observation is the initial step where you carefully <u>examine</u> a passage, noting facts, details, and questions, to <u>understand</u> what the text <u>literally</u> says.

\*Warning – Avoid bringing preconceived ideas or interpretations.

Five steps to observation

- 1. Compare translations
- 2. Ask questions
- 3. Find key words
- 4. Observe literary features
- 5. Analyze the structure
- 2. Interpretation is <u>investigating</u> the text based on the questions we asked and what we <u>uncovered</u> in our step of observation.

Five steps to interpretation

- 1. Consider the context
- 2. Compare Scripture with Scripture
- 3. Word studies
- 4. Topical studies
- 5. Consult other resources
- 3. Application is knowing how we should apply what the Bible says and teaches to our lives.

Five steps to interpretation

- 1. Establish the <u>relevance</u>
- 2. Appropriate the meaning

## Challenge for this week:

- 1. Ask God to help you set aside a portion of time to take steps to begin a short study.
- 2. Incorporate observation, interpretation, and application to a verse or passage you read this week.