

Studying the Bible Together

1. **Read to understand the passage**- bring printed out copies of the passage so students can write on it!
 - a. Have someone read the passage out loud.
 - b. Have everyone read it again to themselves and write on their printed-out passage:
 - Circle repeated words or ideas.
 - Put a ? by words you don't know. Put an ! by things you thought were interesting.
 - Is an idea confusing? Write your question in the margin.
 - Are there key transition words (if/then, therefore, but, because)? Draw an arrow to connect how the statements connect.
 - Is there a list? Number it or list it out in a chart.
2. **Discuss your observations**
 - a. Anything you were confused by or words you wanted to define better?
 - b. What stuck out to you? What questions do you have?
 - c. Any lists that were helpful for you to write out?
 - d. What were some repeated words or ideas? Camp out here for a while.
Expert level= how do all these repeated ideas relate to each other?
3. **Interpret what the passage says by answering the Big 3 Questions:**
 - a. What do you learn about God in this passage (who He is/what He does)?
 - b. What do you learn about yourself in this passage?
 - Follow up question: what are we called to be or do in this passage?
 - How do you fall short of those standards?
 - Why do we fall short?
 - c. How does this passage point me to Jesus and my need to be saved (how do you see the grace of God in this passage)?
4. **Application**
 - a. How can you see God more clearly because of this passage? How does that encourage or challenge you?
 - b. In light of what's true about God, how will that affect the way I live?
 - c. What should I do to respond?
5. **Prayer PART**

The leader should intro this time by explaining "We're going to have 4 parts to prayer - Praise, Admit, Request, Thank." For each section, it could help for a leader to pray first then for one to two others to follow, so that the leader breaks the ice. "Now we're going to transition to a time of Request"

- a. **Praise** - praise God for something you learned or were reminded about his character
- b. **Admit** - confess your falling-short-ness; confess specific areas where this passage showed you sin
- c. **Request** - ask God to help you apply what you have learned. Pray for the truths of the passage, God, and the Gospel to come alive in you. Pray for others on campus to know God.
- d. **Thank** - thank God for what He is teaching you. Thank him for his grace. Thank him for things in your life.

*adapted from contagiousdisciplemaking.com, Jen Wilkin's [Women of the Word](#), and my thoughts - Tim Casteel