

# REQUIRED READINGS

## IN THE SCHOOL OF BIBLICAL STUDIES

Five readings are required of each book. You may do them in the following variations.

The first step is to begin all readings or study with prayer.

### **THE FIRST READING:**

Read the entire book in one sitting without interruptions.

Read it aloud!

During this reading you are getting the big picture or overview of the book.

Some things to look for, ask and write out;

- What is the big picture/main idea?
- What are the main themes?
- What do you see that you never saw before?

### **OPTION A**

#### ❖ **SECOND READING:**

Read the whole book through again in one sitting either aloud or silently. Before you begin this reading go over the observation sheet and focus on several of the observations as you do this reading. Again it is mostly an overview and a reading to get yourself familiar with the contents of the book.

#### ❖ **THIRD READING:**

Do your paragraph titles during this reading. As you are doing your paragraph titles you may want to think about some of the observation questions. Also look for information that will help you with the B.R.I.

Do your rough **Horizontal Chart**.

Do the B.R.I. because you will need this information to do good interpretation.

#### ❖ **FOURTH AND FIFTH READING:**

You will do your fourth and fifth readings as you do your **Vertical Charts**. Be sure to consider the observations and interpretation questions as you do your Vertical Charts.

### **OPTION B**

#### ❖ **SECOND READING:**

Do your paragraph titles during this reading. As you are doing your paragraph titles you will want to think about some of the observation questions. Also look for information that will help you with the B.R.I.

Do your rough **Horizontal Chart**.

Do the B.R.I. because you will need this information to do good interpretation.

#### ❖ **THIRD AND FOURTH READING:**

You will complete these readings as you do your **Vertical Charts**. Be sure to consider the observations and interpretation questions as you do your Vertical Charts.

#### ❖ **FIFTH READING:**

This final reading will be an overview (Synthetic Method) reading where what you've observed is solidified or where you see some new things as you step back and take a final look at the Big Picture after having done the detailed work.

We realize that there are times when you will read the book an additional time while working on the Horizontal Chart and that some passages will be read additional times in doing paragraph titles or Vertical Charts but this is a guideline.

# STEP BY STEP THROUGH CHARTING

---

This can be used every time you chart through a book.

1. **1<sup>st</sup> reading - Read the book out loud.** Think about the main idea of the book.
2. **2<sup>nd</sup> reading - Do your paragraph titles** on a separate piece of paper. This will be your worksheet for the rough horizontal. We suggest you only write on one side of the paper and in one column; that way you have a good overview of the paragraph titles.
3. **Option A – 3<sup>rd</sup> reading - Do your observation reading** in your own Bible using your color code to pick out major observations – repeated words, themes, important who's, where's, contrasts. Rethink your first impression of the **main idea** and ask **why the book was written**. Look for a **key verse**. As you identify information that will be helpful for your **BRI**, make a note of it in your Bible to come back to when you are doing your BRI.
4. **Work on your rough horizontal.** Use your paragraph titles for your worksheet. Get out your structure and composition handout for helps in breaking up the book. This is meant to be your own work, please do not use Bible dictionaries or commentaries. Think about your **title**, this should give you the main idea of the book, and write this on the rough horizontal. Also record some of your suggestions for the **key verse**.
5. **Take your rough horizontal to your checker.** They will be looking to see if you have breaks that are reasonable, if your title reflects the main idea of the book and also if you have the correct key verse. **On the back of your rough horizontal write your thoughts about the main idea and the major reason the book was written so you can discuss this with your checker.** They are also available to help you look at the breaks if you have tried and are not able to see how the author is breaking the book up. Your checker will not do the horizontal for you but will help by giving some key points to be looking for.
6. You could **draw up your final horizontal** now or do it at the end.
7. **Do your BRI.** Answer the questions from the Basic Required Information handout on a separate piece of paper that will be turned in with your assignment. Use the information for internal evidence that you found during your 3<sup>rd</sup> reading along with other evidence you find that you need as you work through the questions. After you have done this, then look for external evidence. **DO YOUR BRI BEFORE YOU START YOUR VERTICALS.**
8. **4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> reading - Work on your verticals.** Everyone will have his or her own style and so

it may take you a while to find yours. Do not be discouraged by this. Look at other people's charts for ideas but try not to compare your work. We all have different styles. You want your verticals to be as big as possible. Other key points will be on your grade sheets and gone over in class. See separate handout on vertical charts.

9. **Option B – 5<sup>th</sup> reading** – Read the book again and pull all that you have learned back into the main idea & purpose for writing.
10. **Work on your final application.** Make sure you leave time for this so that you do not miss out on anything that God would want to speak to you and do in your life. The Holy Spirit will be showing you things as you go through each book and the final application is for you to set time aside to reflect on those things. Remember that a changed life is the goal of Bible study not knowledge.  
**“He does not believe that does not live according to his belief.”**  
*“Action is the proper fruit of knowledge” Thomas Fuller*
11. **Turn in all your work** to your checker's tray in the classroom. All assignments must be turned in by 5:00pm on the due day unless otherwise stated. Late charts will not be accepted.

*Turn in:*

- ◆ Paragraph titles & rough horizontal
- ◆ Final horizontal
- ◆ BRI
- ◆ Vertical charts
- ◆ Final application
- ◆ Key for your Color code (include the number of completed readings)



# GUIDELINE FOR GRADING CHARTS

---

## **A. HORIZONTAL CHART: 25 points**

- 3 points: Good grouping of paragraphs into segment sections  
3 points: Good grouping of segments into sections  
3 points: Good grouping of sections into divisions  
  
4 points: Good titles for divisions, sections, and segments  
8 points: Good paragraph titles that follow the rules  
1 point: Title of the book  
3 points: Key verse

Book:

Name:

Checker:

# Grade:

Letter Grade:

## **B. VERTICAL CHARTS: 56 points**

### 4 points: **TECHNICAL ASPECTS**

- Clear, easy to read, 1 pt.
- Drawn to scale, 1 pt.
- Spelling, 1 pt.
- Show what text you are observing, 1 pt.

### 22 points: **OBSERVATION**

Observation would include what you notice and examine in the text. Of course you can't record everything that you have observed; you will have to be selective and record what will help you unlock the passage. Include that which is significant and helpful.

#### **Insides:**

- Main points of the paragraph, 3 pts.
- Words in sequence, 1 pt.
- Well-spaced/lay out. Wrote too much? Too little? 2 pts.
- Observations noticed and/or color coded, 3 pts.

#### **Outsides:**

- Relevant observations/relate to the main idea of segment/key observations, 4 pts.
- Variety of observations, 2 pts.
- Took key observations and examined them, 5 pts.
- Themes traced and examined, 2 pts.

22 points:

### **INTERPRETATION**

Interpretation is based on the observations. It is important to ask specific questions that relate to what you have observed. Use the questions of interpretation and also the points to remember when doing interpretation. Select the observations that will unlock the passage and interpret those.

- Was the original reader and original hearer considered? 4 pts.
- Were the author's concerns considered? 2 pts.
- Was important cultural/historical background used in interpretations? 2 pts.
- Was the literary context considered? 2 pts.
- Do the interpretations build on/connect with the observations? 2 pts.
- Was there depth to interpretations? Did interpretations lead to more interpretation?  
Was there quality interpretation? 4 pts.
- Variety of interpretation questions, 1 pt.
- Are they answering the interpretation questions they asked? 1 pt.
- Did they site their sources? 2 pts.
- Summary, 2 pts.

8 points:

### **APPLICATION**

Application is the final step and you are required to do at least two on every vertical. This does not have to be to you personally, although it can be, but how the interpretation would apply in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

- At least 2 per segment, 3 pts.
- Is there quality/depth to the applications? 2 pts.
- Did they build from their observations & interpretations? 2 pts.
- Was there variety with personal, church, society? 1 pt.

## **C. MISCELLANEOUS: 19 points**

### **FINAL APPLICATION: 5 points**

Use the application questions in the Inductive Bible Study Booklet. Record this information, using one of the various options, on a separate sheet of paper and turn it in with your charts.

- Timeless Truths (give verse references), 2 pts.
- 1 point for question 2.
- 2 points for question 3.
- 1 bonus point for the "WOW!" factor.

### **BASIC REQUIRED INFORMATION: 14 points**

See your separate handout; Basic Required Information

- Critical Method, 4 pts. (internal & external evidence)
- Historical Method, 5 pts. (2a-2 pts.) (internal & external evidence)
- Literary Method, 1 pt.
- Survey Method, 2 pts.
- Quality of conclusions, 2 pts.

**READINGS:** 10 points will be deducted if you do not complete the readings. See the Reading Options for how you can do the readings. Please record the number of readings you did on your color code.

Charts are due on due day even if you are not finished. We do not accept late charts.