

2 Thessalonians

Lesson #8, Chapter 3 Overview

The goal of this lesson is to teach you how to look at and begin to study a text of Scripture. Observation is a necessary part of Bible study, but can often be overlooked or rushed through. Observation begins with reading through the chapter and then reading and rereading it again and again! At this stage in our Bible study you're noticing and then recording what God has put into the chapter. You're not making any interpretations about what it means or how it applies to your life—that will come later. Don't rush through this lesson. Set aside time this week to peer into the living and abiding word of God. You'll be glad you did!

1. To begin, read through Chapter 3. Now, summarize the contents of Chapter 3. This is not the time to be super detailed; instead, think of trying to tell a 4th grader the contents of the chapter.
 - a. Summarize paragraph 1 (verses 1-5).
 - b. Summarize paragraph 2 (verses 6-13).
 - c. Summarize paragraph 3 (verses 14-15).
 - d. Summarize paragraph 4 (verses 16-18).
2. After reviewing the chapter and what you wrote for your paragraph summaries, ask yourself: What is the main point of this chapter? How do all these details and events reveal the main idea of the chapter? Now record your answer.

3. Next, look for a verse in the chapter that *best* summarizes the contents of the chapter. You might be tempted to choose your favorite verse here, but please don't do that. Instead, consider which verse best sums up what's in the chapter. Write down the verse you chose here.

4. Now you're ready to title your chapter. Your 3-5 word title should reflect the contents of the chapter. Remember, a title's purpose is to help you remember what is in each chapter.

5. List the things God did in this chapter. Be sure to list the verse reference with your answers.

6. List what you learn about Jesus Christ in this chapter. Be sure to list the verse reference to support your answer.

7. What do you learn working in this chapter? Be sure to include the verse reference that supports your observations.

8. What do you learn about our responsibilities to our brothers and sisters from the exhortations in this chapter? Be sure to include the verse references with your answer.

9. Write down at least one thing you thought was interesting from this chapter.