

Y Team Bible Study Method

Developing your Bible study skills is one of the most important things you can do to accurately understand the life and words of Yeshua, the Jesus of history. We use a **Linguistic Method of Bible Study**, a science based model. Our goal is to discover what Yeshua's words meant to him.

A word or phrase is a symbol or group of symbols with an attached bundle of associations, and those associations are a product of the Source's culture, time period, geographical location and personal experiences.

I. Vocabulary

1. **source** ó This is the person writing or speaking the words. Our first goal is to discover what the words meant to the source.
2. **meme** ó A meme is a unit of information in a brain whose existence influences events such that more copies of it are created in other brains. Memes are parts of memories that are stored on neural networks in the brain. Language is the primary way memes are communicated and copied in brains.
3. **symbols** ó Symbols are the letters of the alphabet in which the words is written.
4. **bundles of association** ó These are the memes that are attached to the symbols.
5. **time period** ó This is the specific time that the Source wrote or spoke the words.
6. **geographical location** ó This is the specific place the Source lived when the words were written or spoke.
7. **culture** ó A source's culture is the primary source of the meanings of words.
 - A. *Culture is the whole behavior and technology of any people that is passed on from generation to generation.*
 - B. *Culture consists of the knowledge, beliefs, morals, laws, religion, customs, concepts, habits, skills, institutions, and any other capabilities of a given people in a given period.*
 - C. *A culture is a comprehensive worldview and way of relating to one's fellow human beings.*
 - D. *A culture does not spell everything out literally, but leaves much to inference.*
 - E. *A culture's strength lies not only in what it says, but also in what it chooses not to say, and this too must be learned.*
8. **personal experiences** ó These are the life experiences of the Source. The more we know about the Source's life the more accurately we are able to discover the meanings of his or her words.

9. **Linguistic Profile** ó This is the combined information gathered from the above factors that we discover about a Source.

II. Basic Linguistic Profile of Yeshua.

1. **source** ó Yeshua
2. **time period** ó Born about 6 BCE. Executed by Roman army about 27 CE. The words he spoke were spoken between 24 and 27 CE.
3. **geographical location** ó Yeshua lived in a small village named Nazareth that is located in Galilee and traveled throughout Galilee, Samaria and Judea.
4. **culture** ó **Late Second Temple Period Judean** that began around 250 BCE.
 - A. **language** ó Yeshua read and spoke Hebrew. He would have also been fluent in Aramaic and may have been familiar with Greek. He taught in Hebrew and read Scriptures written in Hebrew.
 - B. **institutions** ó Three very important institutions in Yeshua's life were the Temple in Jerusalem, local synagogues and market places.
 - C. **knowledge, beliefs, morals, laws, religion, customs, concepts, habits** ó Late Second Temple Period Judaism.
 - D. **skills** ó Teacher, interpreter of Scriptures and carpenter.
 - E. **worldview** ó Viewed people in the world as either Jews or Gentiles.
 - F. **personal experiences** ó We will develop this information through our studies.

III. Your Linguistic Profile

1. Use the above information to create your **Linguistic Profile**.
2. Compare your **Linguistic Profile** to Yeshua's.
3. What differences stand out to you?
4. Being aware of the differences between you and Yeshua is an important step toward understanding what his words meant to him.