

STEPS IN BUILDING AND PREPARING A LESSON

1. Analyze the audience - age, needs, common characteristics, backgrounds...
2. Choose the topic - interesting, relatable...
3. Determine the purpose - goal, lesson aim
4. Collect the material - reading, taking notes, research inductively and extensively
5. Outline
 - a. State central idea - the main focus of the teaching
 - b. Organize material - "weed out" what doesn't pertain to central idea
 - c. Choose main points - that expand the central idea
 - d. Support main points with explanations, illustrations and applications (!)
 - e. Plan conclusion - what's the bottom line, summary?
 - f. Plan introduction - how are you going to get interest and attention?
 - g. Test transitions - does it flow from point to point?
6. It may be helpful at this point to write out in "conversation form" the manuscript - the ways you want to say it.
7. Practice the delivery - teach it to someone or the mirror - the way you want to teach it.

THREE PRACTICAL WORDS FOR BIBLE STUDY

OBSERVATION - What does the verse say? - asking questions
INTERPRETATION - What does the verse mean? - defining words
APPLICATION - How does this apply to me? - relating it to life.

BACKGROUND DATA of the Biblical Context

1. Speaker, Writer - background, character, relation to people
2. People - who are they? spiritual condition?
3. Time - when did this happen? written? events? history? - what Biblical history relates to it?
4. Place - where did this take place? significant characteristics
5. Occasion - what prompted this message? Why did he write it?
- what's the writer dealing with? sin? spiritual growth? doctrine?
6. Aim - what is the writer working for to happen? What's he trying to get across?
- what should/shouldn't the people do? Practical? Doctrinal?

TOOLS FOR BIBLE STUDY

*Commentaries
*Concordance
*Bible Dictionary
Bible Translations
Bible History books

Topical Bible
Individual Book Commentaries
Vines New Testament Word Study
Wilson's Old Testament Word Study
Old Testament and New Testament Survey books and
other books pertaining to topics

*-Virtually essential for effective Bible Study

STUDY

- the text phrase for phrase - observe patterns, themes, grammatical structure
- the text word for word - observe meanings, definitions (original language)
- the text in the context - observe frequency of connections
- the text in relation to historical background