

# Inductive Bible Reading Guide

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1. *What is the genre? -- narrative, parable, poetry, etc?*
2. *What is the context?*
  - a. Where does it fall chronologically in the Bible?
  - b. What just happened and is happening now?
  - c. Where are they and who is there?
  - d. Who is speaking/listening/responding?
  - e. What are they NOT doing or saying?
3. *Observe: What does the passage say?*
  - a. What is the story?
  - b. What does it say about God?
    - i. His character, heart, power, love, how he works, etc
  - c. What does it say about people?
    - i. Our hearts, response to God, relationships, attitudes, etc
    - ii. Is there a command, challenge, promise or encouragement?
4. *Interpret: What does the passage mean?*
  - a. What is the central lesson the original author wanted to communicate?
  - b. What can we learn today?
5. *Apply: What does it mean for me?*
  - a. How does this speak to my heart?
  - b. How do I need to apply this?
  - c. Do I need to pray for others in my life?