

One of the IBS methods evolved at NYTS is that of Robt. A. Traina. Here it is in capsule, from p.229 of his METHODICAL BIBLE STUDY (Asbury T.S., 1952/68). To his caps-words I've added a bit of explication. As an exercise with a text, write on the reverse, as an open outline, only his caps-words.

SEE [1. awareness]...."Observation is the link between the subject and the object. ...The major components of a passage: terms [words, ideas], structure, literary forms, atmosphere [feelings]." (Words in square brackets, mine.) Structure includes internal relationships of images [right-brain] and ideas [left-brain].

INQUIRE [2. quest for meaning]....Curiosity and inquisitiveness, without which the picked fruit is not eaten. E.g.: What was God doing with Abraham? Or ask the Psalmist, Why do you want to escape? Then: Why do I want to escape? [Ps.139.1-12.]

ANSWER to the inquiries ]3. re-creation]....We need "the recreative attitude": "stand in the shoes of the biblical authors" to feel as they felt and think as they thought. E.g.: God was testing Abraham's commitment.

SUMMARIZE [4. message]...."Discover the primary message by interrelating your interpretation of the various components in the passage." E.g., on Ps.139: I can't get away from God.

EVALUATE [5.relevance]....The passage's worth and relevance: separation of local-passing from universal-permanent truths (of "the universal Christ").

APPLY in theory and practice [6. situation]....To "the situation to which the [particular] truth is relevant," apply the universal-portable truth.

ASSOCIATE [7. biblical man]....Associate the passage with other passages "and with the extrabiblical data of experience. In this way one will develop a Biblical theology and...view of life. This is the proper culmination of induction."