

1. Observation: the act and art of noticing
 - a. Basic Process: Read, then note, then interpret
 - b. Read the whole book or at least a few surrounding chapters, notice big things, themes, arguments being made, and the big idea
 - c. Look at the structure surrounding your passage - is the passage a contained thought?
 - d. Then, focus on the passage and just note anything that comes to mind. Don't worry about what it means.
2. Observation - Asking the Right Questions
 - a. Just asking questions to be answered in "Interpretation."
 - b. Almost every Word of a sentence has a question word behind it
 - i. Any pronoun asks "Who? (is this referring to)"
 - ii. Any conjunction asks "What? (Came before)"
 - iii. Any place name or location asks or answers "Where?"
 - iv. Any verb asks "How" but also asks "Who" or "What" is the subject, object (direct or indirect)
 - v. Any event described was probably included on purpose, "Why?" was it included?
 - c. But there are questions that must be asked of every passage:
 - i. What came before this passage in this book, and in the whole Bible? Who is writing? Who is the audience? What type of literature is this? How does this passage fit into the rest of the book?
 - ii. These will be answered in Interpretation, but don't forget to ask them!
3. Exercise - Acts 1:8
4. Exercise - Luke 9:10-17

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8 NIV)

When the apostles returned, they reported to Jesus what they had done. Then he took them with him and they withdrew by themselves to a town called Bethsaida, but the crowds learned about it and followed him. He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing. Late in the afternoon the Twelve came to him and said, “Send the crowd away so they can go to the surrounding villages and countryside and find food and lodging, because we are in a remote place here.” He replied, “You give them something to eat.” They answered, “We have only five loaves of bread and two fish—unless we go and buy food for all this crowd.” (About five thousand men were there.) But he said to his disciples, “Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each.” The disciples did so, and everyone sat down. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. (Luke 9:10-17 NIV)