

***Core Seminars—How to Study the Bible***  
**Class 1: Inductive Bible Study, Part 1**

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*“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.”  
(2 Timothy 2.15)*

**How To Study the Bible Schedule**

Class 1: The Inductive Study Method Pt 1

Class 2: The Inductive Study Method Pt 2

Class 3: Studying the Old and New Testaments

Class 4: The Bible’s Genres

Class 5: Using Commentaries & Other Bible Study Tools

Class 6: Studying Difficult Passages and Familiar Passages

Further Questions?

Feel free to email me, at [eric@rgcv.org](mailto:eric@rgcv.org)

I. What is the Inductive Bible Study Method?

A. Deductive Study

B. Inductive Study

II. Observation

1. *Agassiz and the Fish*

2. Observe as you write

3. It can help to print out your text

4. Observe patterns in the text (comparisons, contrasts, parallelism)

5. Mark linking words (and, but, etc.)

6. Write down quotations or allusions to other passages

7. Note mention of time or place
8. Mark terms of conclusion (therefore, thus, etc.)
9. Write down questions
10. Memorize

**B. Interpretation:**

1. Context rules
2. Let Scripture interpret Scripture
3. Never base convictions on an obscure passage
4. Interpret Scripture according to the author's intent
5. Look for the main message of the passage
6. Study the Old Testament in view of Jesus and the New Testament
7. Adopt the New Testament's attitude toward the Old Testament

**Example: Nehemiah 1:1-3**

<sup>1</sup>The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah.

Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa the citadel, <sup>2</sup>that Hanani, one of my brothers, came with certain men from Judah. And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>And they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire."