

## DIRECTIONS FOR USING THE INDUCTIVE WORKSHEET

1. Pray! Ask the Holy Spirit to direct you in your study. The Holy Spirit is your Teacher. Pray for **illumination**: Ps. 119:18 “Open thou my eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law”. Pray for **cleansing** for if we have unconfessed sin in our hearts God will not hear us. Ps. 66:18 “If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me”. Pray that God through the Holy Spirit will **direct** you to learn what He wants you to learn and what He wants for your students to learn.

2. Read through the passage(s) at least 5 times. Start with a printed copy of the scriptures from The [Online Study Tool](#) from Bible.org. Follow the instructions to download the scriptures without footnotes by highlighting a verse in the chapter you are using. Click “print” at the lower left of the page. When that screen opens, choose cancel. Highlight the verses you want to copy, then use ctrl c and paste into a Word document. If you are using Open Office it works the same. Using scriptures with no notes or as few as possible prevents you from being swayed by a commentator’s thinking and persuasion. Read your passage in several translations to get the flavor of this passage. **ABSOLUTELY DO NOT** use any commentaries until you finish this step. Allow the Holy Spirit to be your teacher and not someone else. Remember a commentator is human just as you are. They may have studied years on this topic but you want and need to hear what the Holy Spirit has to teach YOU as He has already taught them.

3. Ask several questions and write a simple answer to each;

What is the subject of the passages?

Are there any repeated words?

Is there a particular time frame and was there any political/social/economic situation the author was targeting?

Who is the author of this passage? What do you recall about him?

What does it reveal about God and His Son or about the Holy Spirit?

To whom was it written, who is the targeted audience?

Now you are ready to do a worksheet that you can keep on your computer or in a notebook, which you can use in the class discussion or just use to formulate your final plan. What you write sticks in the mind and this is a simple way to keep all of your thoughts concise and not wordy.

### **Column labeled “Contents”**

Here take each passage and write in as few words as possible what you see. *You are only allowed to use the words from the scripture – do not add any of your own!* Why? This is because it will help you recall where this came from. It is another tool to help your memory system.

Ex. Rom 14:10-12 reads: “14:10 But you who eat vegetables only – why do you judge your brother or sister? And you who eat everything – why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. 14:11 For it is written, “***As I live, says the Lord, every knee will bow to me, and every tongue will give praise to God.***” 14:12 Therefore, each of us will give an account of himself to God.”

Shorten it to read as follows: Ex. Rom. 14:10-12 why judge/set at naught your brother; all stand; knee bow/give account before judgment seat of Christ

### **Column labeled “Notes/Questions” –**

List any ideas or questions you may have about this passage that you will do cross references on – or do a word search on etc. Use short cuts (ex. Use a ? mark instead of writing out the word question, use an ! point to note this is important and you need to do further research).

### **Column labeled “Subject Sentence and Divisions”**

**Subject Sentence:** Write out a 10 word sentence that covers the passage idea that will help you to recall what you have studied. What is this passage of scripture about? This can be in your own words but must be only 10 words. The key is conciseness. 2

Ex. Everyone will face a judgment after death.

**Divisions:** Divide your passage up into the sections that you want to cover in your lesson. An easy way to do this is to pencil in a line between the paragraph sections in your Bible or on the printed copy of the scriptures you are using. When you are using more than one passage then use those verses as your divisions. Usually you want to have three divisions and no more than five. This then becomes your outline of the passage(s).

### **Column labeled “Principles”:**

A **principle** is a biblical truth that NEVER changes. List them in short concise thoughts.

### **Column labeled “AIM”:**

There are two different kinds of aims that you need to focus in on.

An **exegetical** aim. This is the aim that the author of the passage(s) wanted to get across to his audience and it pertained specifically to the readers in that day.

A **pedagogical** aim. This is the aim you want to get across to your students and one you want them to internalize. The pedagogical aim can be written as to what you want the student to recognize and to implement into their life.

Think: head – facts, heart – affections, hand – behavioral (what will you do with this)

### **Column labeled “Application”:**

These are questions you will want to ask at the end of each division. They should not be yes or no questions but questions that will cause you or others to make a change in their life.

Applications should be of three kinds:

- Personal (I will....)
- Practical (something that you can do)
- Provable (something that you can evaluate later to see if you actually did it.)

Once this sheet has your questions listed you may be able to use them to set up your divisions or you may just use the scripture. To set up divisions, consider the breaks the original authors used or your own thoughts on your passage of choice. From there, you are set to work with a commentary, dictionary, other resources to aid you in understanding the truth of the scripture. This is where a computer is essential to keep track of what you have learned. After you have penciled in your findings, summarize them into idea blocks.

If you are a Sunday School teacher you are now ready to read the Quarterly Teacher Guide. This is last because you started with the premise that you did not want to be swayed by their thoughts. Sometimes the

Holy Spirit will direct you away from what they are teaching and sometimes they will direct you to the same idea. The Holy Spirit knows what you need and what your students need.

Lastly, take time to ponder what you have learned, thank God in prayer for His guidance. Then go and share what you have learned to someone that is close to you. If you can do that, you know you have internalized it.