

HOW TO: STUDY THE BIBLE — FOLLOW UP

21st February 2021
[#tbsundayteaching](#)

CATCH-UP — 4 SIMPLE STEPS

Last week, we looked at 4 simple steps that we can use to help us understand the Bible better.

Step 1: Observation
Step 2: Interpretation
Step 3: Application
Step 4: Illustration



CATCH-UP — 4 SIMPLE STEPS

Step 1: Observation - Who? What? Where? When?

Step 2: Interpretation - What does the passage tell us about God?
Our relationship with him?

Step 3: Application - What can I learn from the text to apply to my own life?

Step 4: Illustration - Can I explain what I have learnt from the passage to others using my own stories/experiences ideas?

If you want to know more look up last week's teaching or visit:

[How to Study the Bible - 3 Simple Steps](#)

LAST WEEK... USING THE STEPS

Group 1

Jonah 1: 1- 17 Jonah runs away!

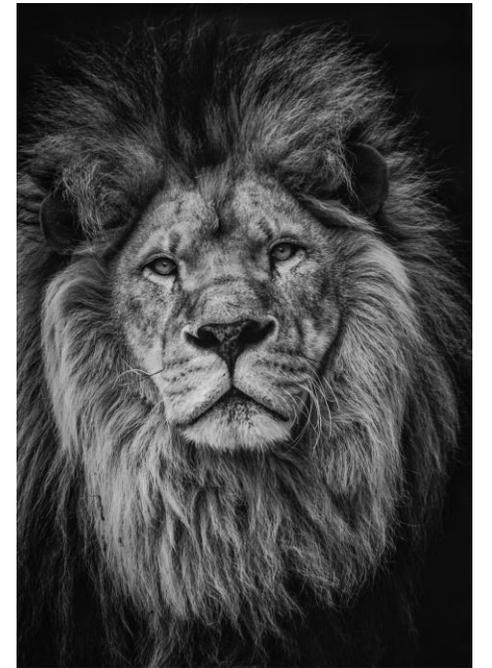
Group 2

Joshua 6: 1-17 Walls of Jericho

We used the steps to look at two well known passages.

They helped us find common themes for both passages:

1. We serve a mighty God who stands with us in all things.
Who gives us all we need to take 'leaps of faith' – big or small.
2. We have a God who daily fights our battles and already won the victory for us - He is the lion of Judah.



NEW INSIGHTS



Inspirational comments from group discussions:

1. God will not ask us to do more than we are able – the people of Jericho were asked simply to march around the city wall for 40 days and to blow their horns ! BUT they needed courage **Why?**
... they could have been attacked at anytime by the opposing army.
2. As Jonah found out, ‘running away’ or ‘finding a hole and hiding away in it’, does not make the problem go away. In fact, it made it worse for him **and** for those around him!

GOING FORWARD ... USING THE STEPS

We have just entered the period of Lent; a 40 day period for spiritual reflection leading up to Easter.

Two of the passages that are read during Lent are **Exodus 3:1-17** (Moses in the Desert - The Burning Bush) and **Matthew 4:1-11** (The Temptation of Jesus – in the Desert).

Why don't you use the 4 simple steps to help you reflect on **one of these** passages?



THE DESERT

“Deserts have a special place in the Bible and in Christian imagination. It is a place between; between before and after. Between the ways we used to think of God and a new understanding of who God is. The desert is the place where we are confronted with the truth of who we are and the stories and the lies we tell ourselves about ourselves and about God. In the desert idols are smashed and the true God is revealed. It is a lonely and difficult place.

“[...]In the desert, we find both challenge and immeasurable grace.”

Extract from a Lent Mediation by Rev Dr Isabelle Hamley. Find the full mediation on BBC Sounds: Radio 4 - Daily Service 18 Feb 2021.



https://unsplash.com/@martino_pietropoli

...FOR MOSES AND FOR JESUS



Exodus 3: 1-17

“The desert is the place where God reveals himself to Moses and gives him everything he needs and more. God comes to Moses ready to respond to the suffering of His people and journeys with them towards freedom. God reveals himself to be much bigger, much more powerful, and less predictable than Moses had thought possible.”

Matthew 4: 1-11

“The desert is the place where Jesus goes immediately after his baptism for 40 days. There he is tempted, battled with Satan over how to best serve God and is himself served by angels.”

Jesus chose to follow God’s teaching rather than that of the world.

WORSHIP

Let the words from the passages, the summary and also of this song encourage you.

Let the song be your anthem of praise this coming week.



[Raise A Hallelujah ~ Bethel Music - YouTube](#)