

Look at the TXT

1. Three steps to Bible Study- Look, Listen, Live

DISCUSSION: Which aspect of Bible Study are you best at? Why do you tend to ignore the others?

2. Before you look at the TXT:

- Pray that God will speak to you
- Assume that God loves you and has the best for you
- Assume that you could be wrong and God wants to change you

DISCUSSION: Do you feel that God speaks to you through the scriptures? Do you feel loved by God as you read?

DISCUSSION: Is it hard for you to approach the scriptures as though you were wrong? Are there some areas of scripture that have touched that you have not yet changed on?

3. How to look at the TXT:

Look for answers to questions

Look for author, recipients, and purpose of writing

Look for key words

Look for lists

Look for comparisons and contrasts

Look at the genre

Look at the context

Look for the principles

Look for the theme

DISCUSSION: Does this list help you look at scripture differently? Which ones really stood out to you? How will this change how you look at scripture?

DISCUSSION: Are you willing to put in the time and effort to be a faithful student of scripture? Why or why not?

LEADERS: If you would like, pick out a passage of scripture and give these suggestions a try on it as a group. You may need to do a little homework or you can just try. Make sure you ask a lot of questions about what you see and don't feel like you have to have all the answers. You may want to use Psalm 1 like Neal did, John 1 (the first few verses), or something from your favorite book.

PRAYER: Ask God how He wants you to change the way you look at scripture. It may be the time you spend, the amount you read, how closely you look at it, study instead of read, or applying some of these principles of study. Be open to whatever He might have for you.