

## Hebrews 13:7 – 19

New American Standard Bible 1995

1 Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God  
2 to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate  
3 their faith. Jesus Christ *is* the same yesterday and today  
4 and forever. Do not be carried away by varied and strange  
5 teachings; for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by  
6 grace, not by foods, through which those who were so  
7 occupied were not benefited. We have an altar from which  
8 those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. For the  
9 bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the  
10 holy place by the high priest *as an offering* for sin, are  
11 burned outside the camp. Therefore Jesus also, that He  
12 might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered  
13 outside the gate. So, let us go out to Him outside the camp,  
14 bearing His reproach. For here we do not have a lasting  
15 city, but we are seeking *the city* which is to come. Through  
16 Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to  
17 God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.  
18 And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such  
19 sacrifices God is pleased. Obey your leaders and submit *to*  
20 *them*, for they keep watch over your souls as those who  
21 will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not  
22 with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you. Pray for  
23 us, for we are sure that we have a good conscience,  
24 desiring to conduct ourselves honorably in all things. And  
25 I urge *you* all the more to do this, so that I may be restored  
26 to you the sooner.

**Read the passage through completely before looking at these questions.**

### **Observation (What does it say?):**

Consider the observation questions on the back of this page.

- **NO VERSE NUMBERS!**  
**NO PARAGRAPHS!**

Where did the writer begin new thoughts?

Use double lines // where you would divide different topics or ideas in the passage.

Where do you tend to pause while reading to let things sink in?

- Use lines to connect words or ideas (if any) connecting different parts in this passage?
- What else do you observe in this passage?

### **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**

After observing the passage:

- What parts seem clear and straightforward?
- What parts seem unclear or confusing?
- What questions come to mind as you read?

### **Application (What does it mean for me?):**

- How do the ideas and instructions in this passage help apply what was said in the rest of the sermon?
- How do they help you relate Hebrews to your life?

**For additional thought and discussion:**

- How do the comments about an “altar” and the bodies and blood of sacrificed animals relate to our practice of Communion? Or do they?
- What is the point of the comments about “outside the camp”?
- Why are “leaders” brought up twice?

For more suggested methods of study: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/methodical-bible-study/>

For examples of inductive studies: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/inductive-bible-study-examples-2/>

## Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

### **Observation** (What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer’s thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose (“in order that...”)?
- Are there conclusions (“Therefore...”)?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good “headline” for the passage?

### **Interpretation** (What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer’s thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

### **Application** (What does it mean for me?)

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

**Read nothing into the Scriptures,  
but draw everything from them,  
and suffer nothing to remain  
hidden that is really in them.  
J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)**

For a much more detailed description of the methodology, see

Robert A. Traina, *Methodical Bible Study*. Wilmore, Kentucky: Asbury Theological Seminary, 1952.

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