

Jude 1-3

New American Standard Bible 1995

1 ¹ Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of
2 James,
3 to those who are the called, beloved in God the Father, and
4 kept for Jesus Christ: ² May mercy and peace and love be
5 multiplied to you.
6 ³ Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you
7 about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to
8 you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith
9 which was once for all handed down to the saints.

Observation (What does it say?):

Consider the observation questions on the back of this page. What do you notice in this passage?

- What does it say about the writer?
- What does it say about the audience?
- What does it say about the reason for writing?
- What else do you observe in this passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

After observing the passage:

- What does he mean “while I was making every effort...I felt the necessity...”?
- What is the main reason for writing, “common salvation” or “contend earnestly for the faith”? Both? How do they relate?

Application (What does it mean for me?):

- Which might be more applicable to your life, “our common salvation” or “contending earnestly for the faith”? Why?

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.

Jude 1-3.docx