



**LOVE THE WORD. LEARN THE WORD.  
LIVE THE WORD.**



## Keys To Bible Study

1. Observation: What does it say?
2. Interpretation: What does it mean?
3. Correlation: What other verses explain it?
4. Application: What will I do about it?



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“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no FRUIT, while every branch that does bear FRUIT he prunes so that it will be even more FRUITFUL. ...

*John 15:1-17*



... You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear FRUIT by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear FRUIT unless you remain in me. ...

*John 15:1-17*

... I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much FRUIT; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; ...

*John 15:1-17*



... such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much FRUIT, ...

*John 15:1-17*



... showing yourselves to be my disciples. As the Father has LOVED me, so have I LOVED you. Now remain in my LOVE. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my LOVE, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his LOVE. ...

*John 15:1-17*





... I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: LOVE each other as I have LOVED you. Greater LOVE has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. ...

*John 15:1-17*



... You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ...

*John 15:1-17*



... You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear FRUIT- FRUIT that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. This is my command: LOVE each other.”

*John 15:1-17*



“If anyone doesn’t remain in me, he’s like a branch that’s thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.”

*John 15:6*





## Some Basic Rules of Interpretation

1. Consider the historical context: Who is being spoken to? Why?



“It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love. ...

*John 13:1-15*

... The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ...

*John 13:1-15*

... so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ...

*John 13:1-15*





... He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” Jesus replied, “You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” “No Lord,” said Peter, “you shall never wash my feet!” ...

*John 13:1-15*

... Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.” “Then, Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!” Jesus answered, “A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. ...

*John 13:1-15*

... And you are clean, though not every one of you.” For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean. When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. ...

*John 13:1-15*

... “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. ...

*John 13:1-15*





... I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.”

*John 13:1-15*

“I’ve told you these things so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete!”

*John 15:11*



# Some Basic Rules of Interpretation

2. Define the key words



## Define The Key Words

Mt. 3:8 “the fruit of repentance”

Mt. 26:29 “the fruit of the vine” (communion wine)

Rom. 7:5 “we bore fruit for death” (sinful lifestyle)

Rom. 15:28 “received this fruit” (offering of money)

Gal. 5:22 “fruit of the spirit” (9 godly attitudes)





## Define The Key Words

Eph. 5:9 “the fruit of light” (truth, righteousness, goodness)

Col. 1:6 “this gospel is bearing fruit and growing” (new believers)

Heb. 13:15 “praise to God – the fruit of our lips”



## Some Basic Rules of Interpretation

3. Interpret unclear verses  
with clear ones

“Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.”

*John 15:4 NIV*

- Bearing fruit is produced by  
remaining in Christ



“This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”

*John 15:8*

- Bearing fruit brings glory  
to God

“I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.”

*John 15:11*

- Bearing fruit will give me  
complete joy





## Some Basic Rules of Interpretation

4. Look for the most obvious meaning



“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you!”

*John 15:7*



- Remaining in Christ produces answered prayer

“I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.”

*John 14:13*



- Answered prayer brings  
Glory to God!



“Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete!”

*John 16:24*

- Answered prayer gives me complete joy!



“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name!”

*John 15:16*





I bear fruit by asking in prayer



- You consider the historical context
- You define the key words
- You interpret unclear verses with clear ones
- You look for the most obvious meaning



“Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house upon the rock.”

*Matthew 7:24*



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