Are You Nuts?!?!??!?!?!

Do you know how many people take the time to do what you are about to do? Not many. You are rare indeed.

Let me congratulate you for taking the time to do something that is so important...learning how to correctly read and apply the Bible. When you are done with this, you will read the Word and be stunned by its contents. The Bible will come alive for you and you will experience a never ending supply of shock and awe.

Way to go!

This manual follows along with the presentation. If you are teaching a group, feel free to go to the following site and make as many copies as you like. It is in a format that will make reproduction cheaper: www.wretchedradio.com/pdf/herman_who.pdf

Once again, let me congratulate you for taking the time to dive into this. While you may look foolish to the world for taking the time to study this, the Bible says you are wise.

My son, if you will receive my words
And treasure my commandments within you,
Make your ear attentive to wisdom,
Incline your heart to understanding;
For if you cry for discernment,
Lift your voice for understanding;
If you seek her as silver
And search for her as for hidden treasures;
Then you will discern the fear of the LORD
And discover the knowledge of God.
For the LORD gives wisdom;
From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Proverbs 2:1-6

Special thanks to Joel Anderson, Sue Anderson, James Braaten, Ken Weiler, Corey Tapley and Concord Baptist Church, Joe Potter, Jennifer West, Rick Wagner and Cedric Hohnstad.

Recommended Resources (in order of preference): Grasping God's Word (J. Scott Duvall, J. Daniel Hays), Introduction to Biblical Interpretation (William Klein, Craig Blomberg, Robert Hubbard), How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth (Gordon Fee, Douglas Stuart), Never Read a Bible Verse (Greg Koukle). If you are interested in an online class, check out Moody Bible Institute (excellent).
Why didn’t God just give us a rule book?
1.
2.
God gave us a book filled with stories, proverbs, psalms, predictions, epistles and Gospels that can be applied to give direction in every situation. Brilliant!

**Hermeneutics:** the ___________ and ______________ of interpreting Scripture.

I Cor. 2:14 “The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.”

The word “understand” is not mere head knowledge; it is the knowledge that comes from _________________________________. The Holy Spirit helps the believer understand the _________________________________ of it.

The Holy Spirit helps us___________________________ the text.

2 Tim 2:15 “Study (be diligent) to show yourselves approved of God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth.”

“Cut it straight” like a ________________________________.

**The Inductive Method:** Examining data to make a conclusion and then an application. This is also known as ________________________________.

**The Deductive Method:** Making a conclusion and then finding evidence to support the conclusion or belief. This is ________________________________.

**Reader Response:** What does the text say______________________________?

**Authorial Intent:** What did the author ________________________________?

**Grammatical Historical Method of Interpretation:** To determine exactly what the author intended and how the original audience would have understood it.
Presuppositions: Uncompromisable beliefs. It is the ___________________________, i______________________________, i______________________________ Word of God.

Pre-Understandings: “I think the Bible teaches this, but ________________________________________.

Attitudes and experiences: These are not necessarily bad, they just need to be checked at the door.

Step One: Grasp the text in their town. What did the text say to the original audience?

Step Two: Measure the width of the river to cross. What are the differences between the biblical audience and us?

Step Three: Cross the principlizing bridge. What is the theological principle in this text?

Step Four: Does the New Testament change our understanding of an OT text?

Step Five: Grasp the text in our town. How should the individual Christian apply the theological principles in our lives today?
Step One:

Before observing the text, we should know the ____________________________
and cultural ____________________________.

What does the text ____________________________?

1. Who and ____________________________?
2. What is the author’s reason for writing? What is going on? What is life like?
   What are the circumstances? What is the culture? What is the commerce/trade/industry?
3. From where and to where is he writing?
4. When did he write it?
5. What is the situation (his and theirs)?

Understanding the times and history is important (pagan practices, in slavery, delivered from slavery, attitudes.)

Sources
1. The Bible:
2. Primary texts:
3. Secondary sources:

Rev. 3:15-16.

15. I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. Because you say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,” and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked, I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.

What was the historical setting? Four pieces of information.
> Collassae, cold water, good church
> Hierapolis in the north had hot springs, good church
  God did not want Laodiceia to be hot or cold in temperature, but to be like Collassae or Hieropolis.
Now, go back and read the same text.

19. Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.

**Bottom line:** know what was going on _________________ of the text and what was happening _________________ of the text (setting, culture, etc.).

**Observing Your Text (This is still a part of Step One)**

Look for figures of speech, connectives (then), repetition, major breaks (therefore), radical changes. Make sure the details are ________________________.

**Order of Observation**
1. Your ________________.
2. Verses around your ________________.
3. Other texts that talk about your ________________.
4. Then consult other ________________.

**Two big rules:**

1. We cannot understand the verse differently than the original ________________.
2. We know more than the original audience, while we can use that knowledge to know how that information helps us form our theology, we can’t use that to expand what the verse would have said to the original ________________.

**Example: JEREMIAH 29:11**

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans that I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.

17. Thus says the LORD of hosts, Behold, I am sending upon them the sword, famine and pestilence, and I will make them like split-open figs that cannot be eaten due to rottenness.
Step Two:

> Culture:

> Setting:

> Language: Words are ultimately determined by ______________________________ and ________________________________.

> Time: We can’t impose our scientific or historical knowledge on their understanding of the text.

> Covenant:

Step Three

Interpreting the text. What is the meaning of the verse? What is the principle in general terms? State in a brief sentence what your verse means.

Step Four

How does the NT alter the principle of an ______________________________? Ex.: Sacrifices

Step Five

> We must be ________________________________.

> Just because we like the principle, doesn’t mean we can use it. That is ________________________________.

> The situation needs to resemble the general situation and then apply the text to our ________________.

Exodus 21:28-29

“If an ox gores a man or a woman to death, the ox shall surely be stoned and its flesh shall not be eaten, but the owner of the ox shall go unpunished.” (It is the ox’s fault).
29. “If, however, an ox was previously in the habit of goring and its owner has been warned, yet he does not confine it and it kills a man or a woman, the ox shall be stoned and its owner also shall be put to death.” (It is the owner’s fault).

**Step One: Observe**
OT civil laws were given to keep order, protect people and show Israel to be a nation set apart. What does this verse say? If your animal kills someone, kill the ____________________________. If the animal has a history of hurting people and the owner didn’t take a precaution to prevent the animal from killing someone, then animal and the ____________________________ should die.

**Step Two: How wide is the river?** Laws given just to Israel under old covenant. We operate under the laws that our ____________________________ makes because God has put them in charge.

**Step Three: What is the principle?** God values human life so much that a person who is responsible for the death of another person should be_______________________________. God also expects us to be responsible for our _____________________________.

**Step Four: Does the New Testament change my understanding?** Yes. We no longer have to follow these rules, but there are _____________________________ that can be applied.

**Step Five: Application**
God is OK with the _____________________________.

God expects us to be responsible for our _____________________________.

If we are irresponsible, we must be willing to _____________________________.

**Scenario:**

**Some other considerations.**

C______________________, c_______________________, c_______________________!
Context determines the meaning of the____________________________and the verse.
One word can have lots of meanings, but can only have __________________ meaning in the text.

“Never read a _________________________.”

Mark 8:16-9:13  (New American Standard Bible)

16. They began to discuss with one another the fact that they had no bread. And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why do you discuss the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet see or understand? Do you have a hardened heart? HAVING EYES, DO YOU NOT SEE? AND HAVING EARS, DO YOU NOT HEAR? And do you not remember, when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces you picked up?”

22. And they came to Bethsaida And they brought a blind man to Jesus and implored Him to touch him. Taking the blind man by the hand, He brought him out of the village; and after spitting on his eyes and laying His hands on him, He asked him, “Do you see anything?” And he looked up and said, “I see men, for I see them like trees, walking around.” Then again He laid His hands on his eyes; and he looked intently and was restored, and began to see everything clearly.

Applying only what applies.

Remember, some verses are for us and some are historical narrative.  We can only apply the verses to us that__________________________________________.

Phil. 4:13. “I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.” Let’s go through the interpretive process.

Step One: Grasp the text in their town.

Step Two: How wide is the river?

Step Three: Cross the principlizing bridge.
Step Four: Does the NT change anything?

Step Five: Application.

Example applications:

> ______________________________________________________________________

GENRES

G_______________________________ and c_______________________________ will help you determine the meaning of a word.

THE GOSPELS

Gospel: A th______________________________, historical biography of Jesus.

MATTHEW wrote to _________________________________ to proclaim Jesus as _________________________________.

MARK wrote to _________________________________ to present Jesus as a _________________________________.

LUKE wrote to the _________________________________ (Theophilus) to declare that He was the ideal _________________________________.

JOHN wrote to the _________________________________ to announce Jesus as _________________________________.

PARABLES

TRIADIC structure: God and __________________________ responses: one good, one bad. EVERYTHING else is just a detail.

Consider the point, not the details.

Consider the prodigal son.

Father:
Son that left and son who stayed were _________________________________ unsaved.  
One responds ________________________________, the other does not.

ACTS

Your biggest challenge is to figure out which is ________________________________
______________ (description) and what is prescriptive (for us to duplicate).

All Scripture has a lesson to teach, but not all Scripture is to be
______________________________ directly.

How do we determine if the narrative is prescriptive or descriptive?

Does it sound like a command?
1. Is the activity__________________________?
2. If it is repeated, are the ________________ the same? Consider Acts 2, 8, 10, 19.
3. If the action is something new, proceed with ____________________________.
4. Interpret historical narratives with the ____________________________ in mind.
5. If the narrative contradicts Scripture, it is not intended to be
______________________________.

LETTERS

For the most part, (but not entirely) the epistles apply d_________________________
to the modern church. However, there are some things that are cultural. Also,
remember that these are ____________________________ documents written for a
specific reason…keep that reason in mind.

OLD TESTAMENT NARRATIVE

Don’t look for allegories…look for ____________________________ and then
apply them in light of the NT.
OLD TESTAMENT LAW

There are __________________________ ways to determine which laws, if any, apply to the NT believer.

1. The law is separated into three categories: Moral, _____________________________ and ceremonial.

2. Follow all of the Mosaic Laws except for the laws the _____________________________ repeals.

3. None of the OT laws apply. We only follow the laws the _____________________________ gives.

OLD TESTAMENT POETRY

F______________________________, a lot more than ____________________________.

OLD TESTAMENT PROVERBS

Proverbs are written to teach us the difference between right and wrong in a way that is easy to _____________________________.
Proverbs are not _____________________________.
Proverbs are principles that if obeyed generally lead to an ___________________________ life.

Proverbs must be understood in light of:
>  
>  

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY

Very little of OT prophecy is ____________________________:
> ________% is messianic
> ________% describes the New Covenant age.
> ________% describes events that are yet to come after the New Covenant era.

There are prophecies that have ____________________________ and ____________________________ predictions.
Luke 4:16-21: And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written,

18. “THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED, TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD.”

And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Is. 61:1, 2

1. The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
   Because the LORD has anointed me
   To bring good news to the afflicted;
   He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
   To proclaim liberty to captives
   And freedom to prisoners;
2. To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD

JESUS STOPPED HERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

There can also be n_________________and f____________________ fulfillments of one prophecy.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Revelation should be divided into two parts:
> Ch.__________-___________: Current events at the time of the author.
> Ch.__________-___________: Future events.

Read Revelation like an ____________________________cartoon.

Symbols: if the symbol is not normal, it is probably a ____________________________.

Rev. 9:7-8: The appearance of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle; and on
their heads appeared to be crowns like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men. They had hair like the hair of women, and their teeth were like the teeth of lions.

Putting It All Together

Hosea 1:1
The word of the LORD which came to Hosea the son of Beeri, during the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.

Step One: Observation: God inspired Hosea to write a ____________________________ at a specific time.

Step Two: How wide is the river?

Step Three: What is the principle? God communicated through __________________________ and was specific about ____________________________.

Step Four: Does the NT change my understanding? Yes. God no longer communicates through prophets to add ____________________________.

Step Five: Application. God inspired the Bible (how, we don’t know), and we know we should take it as truth, not fiction, because it is written as a ____________________________.

I Thess. 5:26
Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.

II John 7-9 Christology

For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist. Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward. Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.
Step One: Observe the text:

Step Two: How wide is the river?

Step Three: What is the principle?

Step Four: Does the NT change my understanding?

Step Five: Application.

Scenario:

Mark 1:14-15 The Gospel
Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

Step One: Observe the text:

Step Two: How wide is the river?

Step Three: What is the principle?

Step Four: Does the NT change my understanding?

Step Five: Application:

Scenario: Ask Jesus into your ________________________________.