

ENTERING THE TEXT

(Outline of a Power Point Presentation)

PRELIMINARIES

- The Main Goal: Hear from Jesus in His Word
 - Seek the truth of the passage
 - Learn stuff
 - Gain understanding and wisdom
 - Make application
- The Presupposition: The Bible is God’s Living Word
- The Posture: You are entering a new culture

Some Tools for Entry

- The STIM “Entry Posture Diagram”
- “The Student, the Fish, and the Professor” article
- “Exploring D.C.”- a new article by Lindsay Olesberg which relates inductive Bible study to exploring a new culture
- Creative ideas and tools that YOU come up with

Entry Mode I: Get the Story Straight!

- Dig deep!
- “Newspaper Questions”
 - Who, what, when, where, how

Entry Mode II: Connections (“Relationships”) in the Text

- Repetition, Similarity, Contrast, Cause to Effect, General to Specific, Specific to General, etc.
- Foundation for all literary works: writings, movies, dramas, etc.
- Use movies, plays, tv shows, other literature to illustrate

Entry Mode III: “Re-living” or “Entering the Story”

- **Become one of the characters. What are you feeling, thinking, seeing, smelling?**
- **Creative methods to identify with a character**
 - David’s journal in I Sam 25
 - The Leper’s soliloquy
- **How is this Story my story? How have I lived this story before?**
 - i.e. “Who are my Goliaths?” (I Sam 17)

Entry Mode IV: Asking Good Questions

- See Lindsay Olesberg’s paper on How to Write Good Questions

Conclusion:

- You are not a distant, “objective” scientist
- But an explorer enthusiastically entering a new culture
 - *Look around!*
 - *Ask questions!*
 - *Taste the food!*
 - *Have fun!*