

## Dig and Discover Principles Summary

- **Staying on Line:** Tell the Truth, the whole Truth and nothing but the Truth. Do not add to or take away from God's intent for the passage you are studying.
- **Text and Framework:** Let the Bible rule, not your background, previous ideas or teaching. Come to the Scriptures as objectively as possible, clearing your mind of as many previous prejudices as possible, and remaining aware of those that remain. Come as a learner.
- **Asking Good Questions:** Who? What? When? Where? Why? Be a Columbo, a sleuth, a detective. DIG!
- **Genre:** The types of literature in which the passage is written. This helps us to understand the author's purpose in writing the passage and what he wants to convey to the readers.
- **Biblical Theology:** The overarching story of the Bible (creation, fall, redemption, consummation), versus systematic theology (pulling out certain topics, such as the Trinity, and studying them throughout the Scriptures). How does the passage lead us to Christ?
- **Structure:** 1. The major ideas in a passage (foundational). 2. The connecting thoughts that hold the different sections and main ideas together (structural).
- **Finding the Main Idea and Intended Response:** *Discovery Process*—1. What is the main idea the author intends to convey ("What did the author say?")? 2. What does the author intend for the original hearers to respond ("Why did the author say it?")?
- **Traveling Instructions:** *Take your discoveries and apply them.* 1. Don't—take the direct route (going to application first). Begin with God's Word. 2. Do—understand the context of the passage ("What did the intended response look like for the original hearers?"). 3. Do—apply the main idea and intended response to your life today ("What does the intended response look like for me today?").

Remember:

1. There may be multiple applications, but only ONE correct interpretation.
2. The Dig & Discover Principles work together simultaneously. They are not to be thought of as a step by step process.

## **Dig and Discover Resources**

- Study Bible
  - Crossway ESV Study Bible
  - Zondervan NIV Study Bible, edited by D.A. Carson

The following web sites contain concordances, dictionaries, encyclopedias, commentaries, history, maps, sermons, etc.:

- [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com)
- [preceptaustin.org](http://preceptaustin.org)
- [bible.org](http://bible.org) (find “Lumina” Bible study tool, under “Study” drop-down tab)
- [studylight.org](http://studylight.org)
- [biblestudytools.com](http://biblestudytools.com)
- [biblehub.com](http://biblehub.com)
- [e-sword.net](http://e-sword.net)

Also The Bible Project is an excellent source for seeing Biblical Theology, Structure and the Main Idea:

- [thebibleproject.com](http://thebibleproject.com)
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/jointhebibleproject>