

# Observation

Observation, the first part of an Inductive Bible Study, involves taking notes, consulting multiple translations, and looking at cross references. Each of these steps is described below. I recommend taking your notes on a double-spaced printed copy of the book you are studying.

## Key Words and Phrases

Look for the following key words and phrases in the text. You can assign a different colored pen to each type of word or phrase. Make sure to find definitions for any words that you don't know.

- People
- Places
- Times
- Dates
- Repeated Words
- Lists
- Comparisons/Contrasts
- Figurative Speech
- Cause/Effect
- Commands
- Attributes of God
- Promises
- Themes

## Multiple Translations

If you want further clarification on a verse, or a particular verse is worded in a way that doesn't seem clear to you, try consulting a different translation. Translations vary between being word-for-word or giving the general idea from the original Greek or Hebrew. Seeing how a different translation worded the verse might help your understanding. You can use multiple Bibles or look up the verse on a website such as [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com) or [www.blueletterbible.com](http://www.blueletterbible.com).

## Cross References

Cross references are additional verses throughout the Bible that have the same idea, theme, or topic as the verse you are studying. Look for cross references listed in the margins of your Bible. Or go to [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com) or [blueletterbible.com](http://blueletterbible.com) to access additional cross references.

*Friday Morning*  
BIBLE STUDY