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Instructions for Bookmark:

1. Print this sheet out (on cardstock, if you have it)
2. Trim at crop lines
3. Fold on dotted line
4. Insert into Bible
5. Be transformed by God's Word!

interpretation

WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN?



1. Develop some **questions** based on the text. Ask what is the significance of your main observations and why they happened.
2. Imagine the **perspective** of the people in the scene. If Jesus spoke, why did he say what he said?
3. **Answer** the questions from the text and the context.
4. Try to **summarize** the passage in one sentence. What is the **main point** the author is communicating to the audience?

application

WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN FOR ME?



1. How do you **respond** to what this passage is saying? Does it challenge how you see the world?
2. Is there a central truth that you need to **put into practice**?
3. What are the **implications** of the passage for the **community** of which you are a part?
4. **Pray** that God will help you believe and obey.

for more Bible study resources, go to: intervarsity.org/bible-studies

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INTERVARSITY

brief
a guide to
**INDUCTIVE
BIBLE STUDY**

pray 

ASK THE SPIRIT TO
GUIDE YOUR STUDY

Observation

WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?



1. Ask **investigative questions**:
 - **Who** is speaking? Who are the main people? Who is being spoken to?
 - **What** is happening? What is the scene? What is the cultural context of the passage?
 - **Where** is the passage taking place?
 - **When** did or will the events take place?
 - **How** did people respond? How did Jesus react?
2. Look for **grammatical connections**: repeated words, comparisons, contrast, cause and effect.
3. Identify **key words** and phrases.
4. Note **verb tenses**.
5. Look for **conjunctions** such as *since* and *therefore*. Why are those words in the sentence?

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