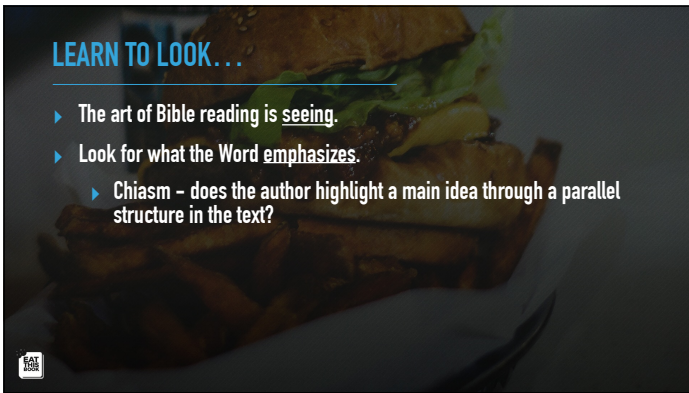
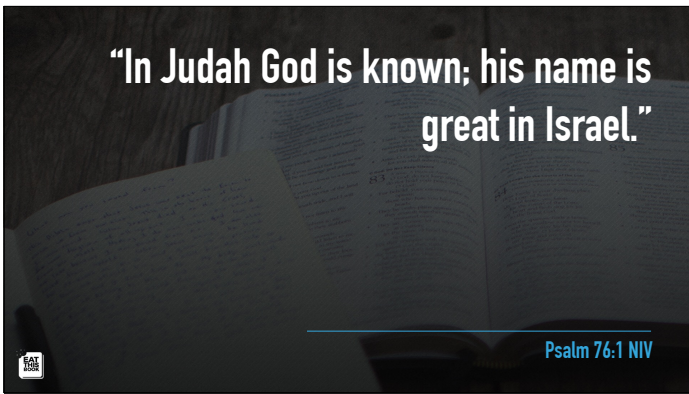




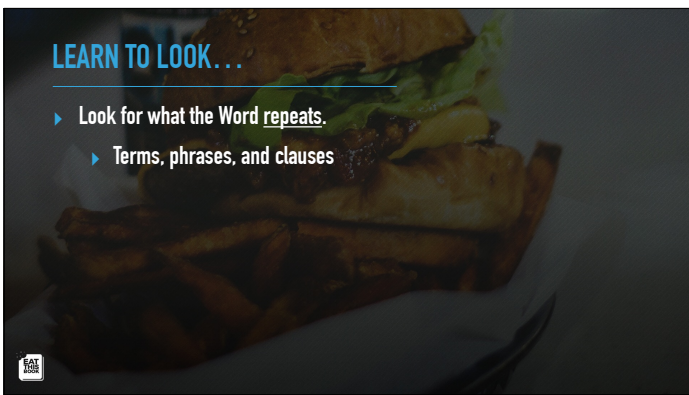
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2



3



4

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all **comfort**, who **comforts** us in our troubles so that we can **comfort** those in any trouble with the **comfort** we ourselves have received from God. For just as the **sufferings** of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our **comfort** overflows.

2 Corinthians 1:3-7 NIV

5

“If we are distressed, it is for your **comfort** and salvation. If we are **comforted**, it is for your **comfort**, which produces in you patient endurance of the same **sufferings** we **suffer**. And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our **sufferings**, so also you share in our **comfort**.”

2 Corinthians 1:3-7 NIV

6

“Do not love the **world** or anything in the **world**. If anyone loves the **world**, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the **world** - cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes, and the boasting of what he has and does - comes not from the Father, but from the **world**. The **world** and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.”

1 John 2:15-17 NIV

7

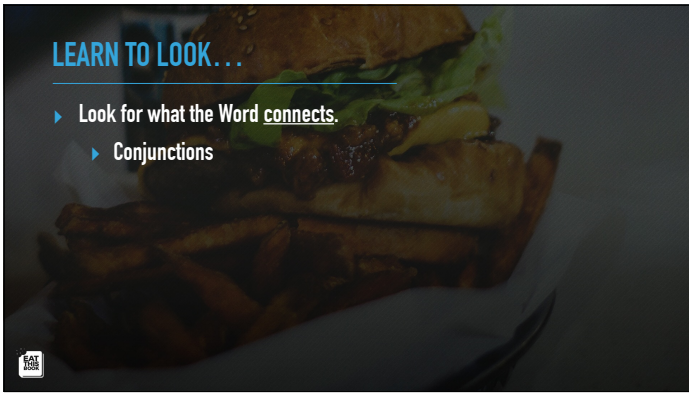
LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ Look for what the Word repeats.
 - ▶ Terms, phrases, and clauses
 - ▶ Characters
 - ▶ Patterns
 - ▶ New Testament uses of Old Testament passages

8

LEARN TO LOOK...

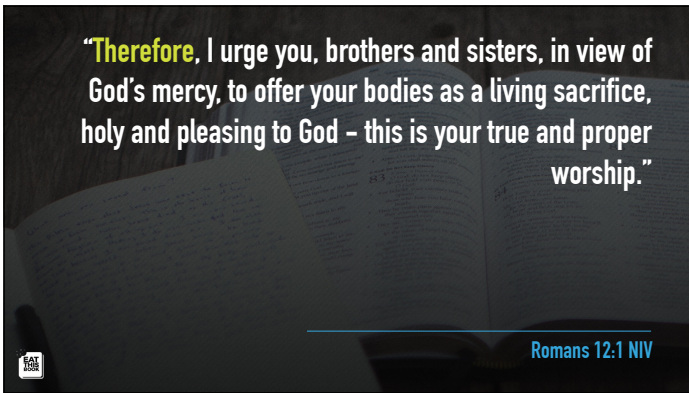
- ▶ Look for what the Word **connects**.
- ▶ Conjunctions



9

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship.”

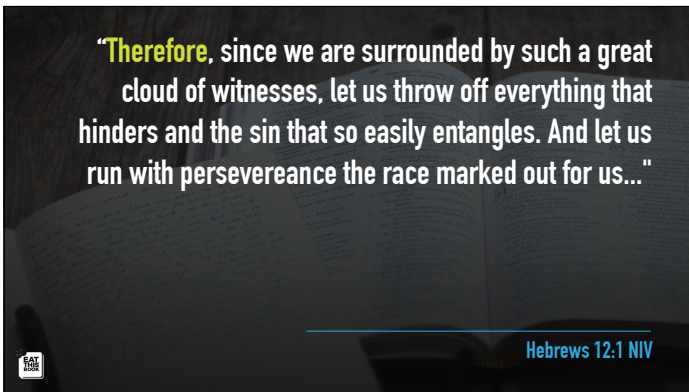
Romans 12:1 NIV



10

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us...”

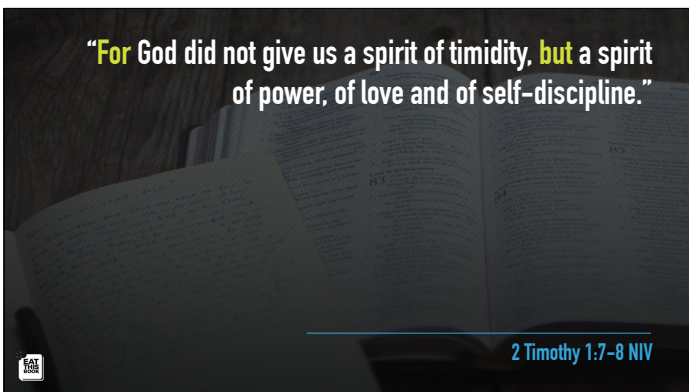
Hebrews 12:1 NIV



11

“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, **but** a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.”

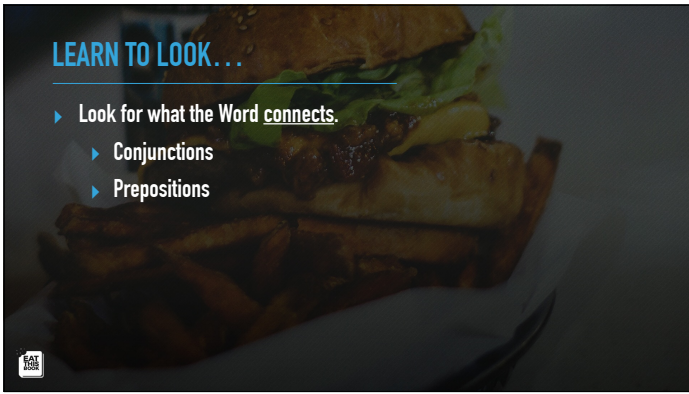
2 Timothy 1:7-8 NIV



12

LEARN TO LOOK...

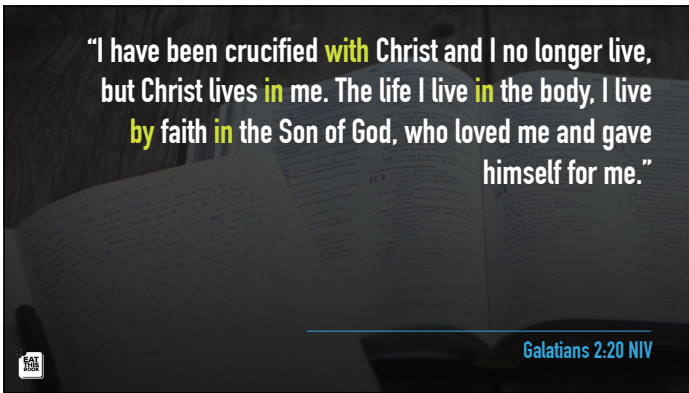
- ▶ Look for what the Word connects.
 - ▶ Conjunctions
 - ▶ Prepositions



13

"I have been crucified **with** Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives **in** me. The life I live **in** the body, I live **by** faith **in** the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

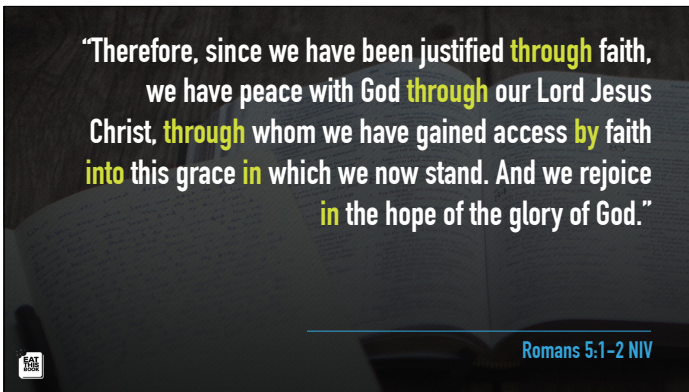
Galatians 2:20 NIV



14

"Therefore, since we have been justified **through** faith, we have peace with God **through** our Lord Jesus Christ, **through** whom we have gained access **by** faith **into** this grace **in** which we now stand. And we rejoice **in** the hope of the glory of God."

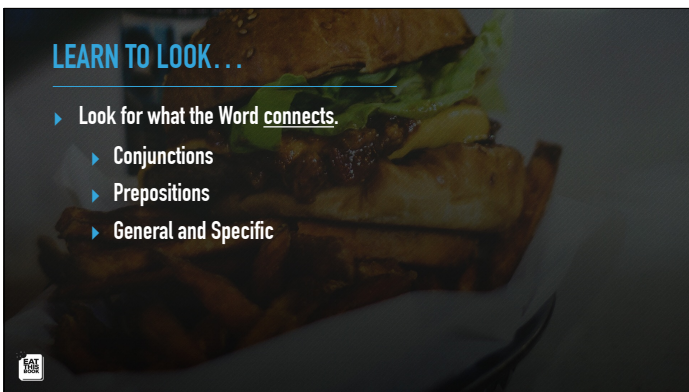
Romans 5:1-2 NIV



15

LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ Look for what the Word connects.
 - ▶ Conjunctions
 - ▶ Prepositions
 - ▶ General and Specific



16

“So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.”

EAT THIS BOOK

Galatians 5:16-23 NIV

17

“The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred; discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions, and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the Kingdom of God.”

EAT THIS BOOK

Galatians 5:16-23 NIV

18

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

EAT THIS BOOK

Galatians 5:16-23 NIV

19

LEARN TO LOOK . . .

- ▶ Look for what the Word connects.
 - ▶ Conjunctions
 - ▶ Prepositions
 - ▶ General and Specific
 - ▶ Question and answer

EAT THIS BOOK

20

“Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge? Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me.”

Job 38:2-3 NIV

21

“A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If I am a father, where is the honor due me? If I am a master, where is the respect due me?’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘It is you, O priests, who show contempt for my name.’ But you ask, ‘How have we shown contempt for your name?’”

Malachi 1:6 NIV

22

“Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. ‘Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?’ he asked Peter.”

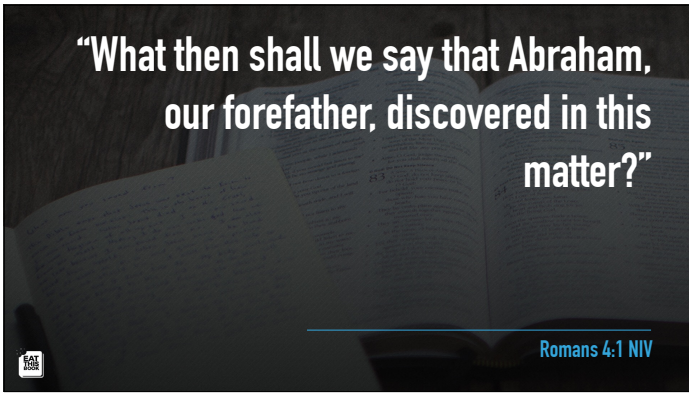
Matthew 26:40 NIV

23

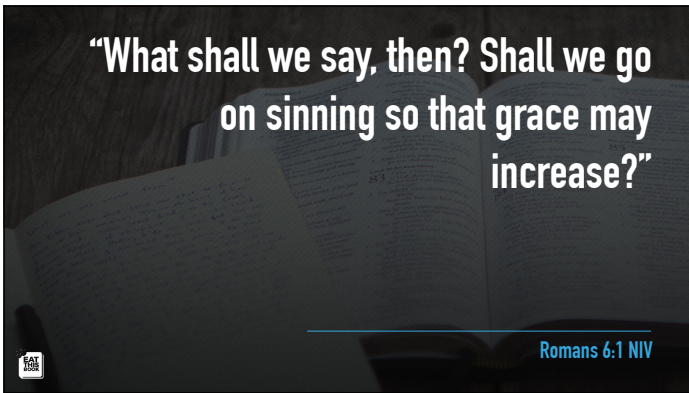
“What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision?”

Romans 3:1 NIV

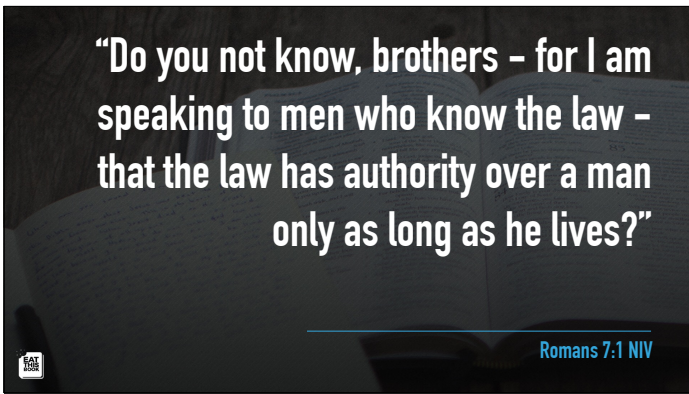
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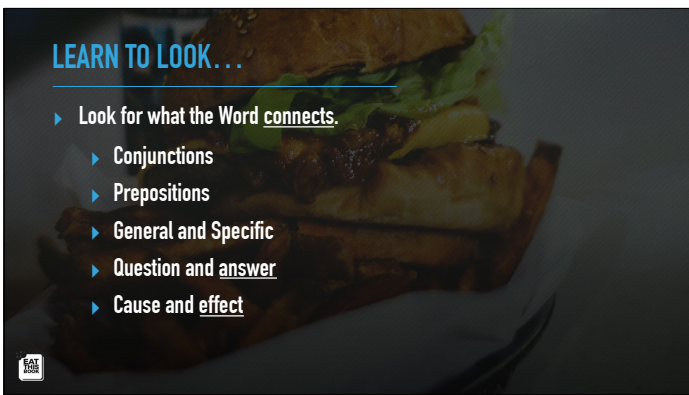
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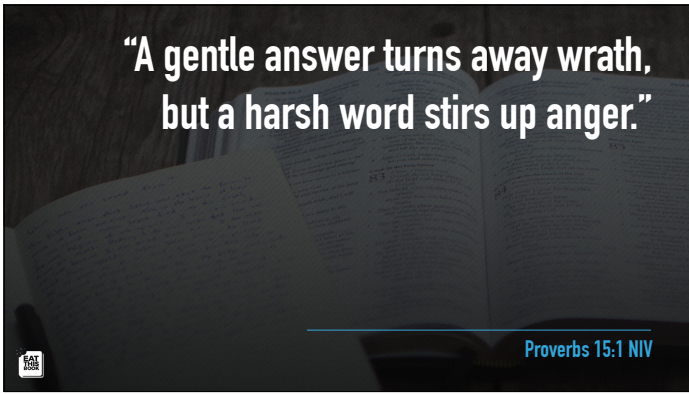
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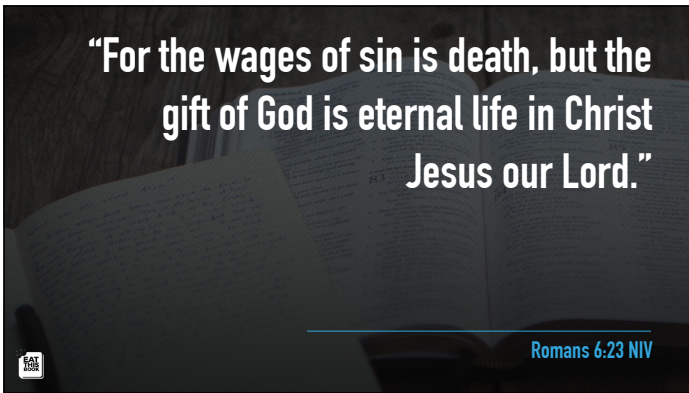
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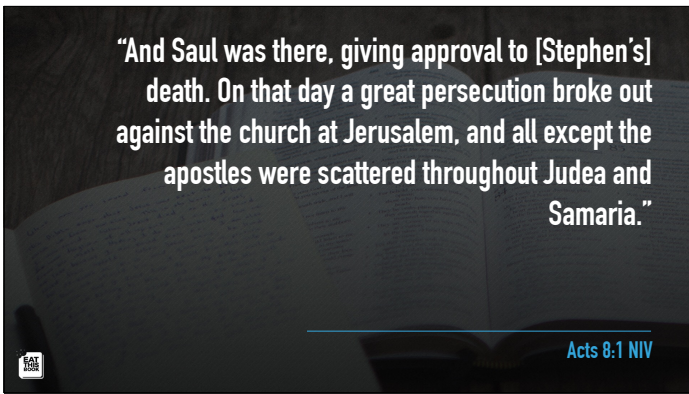
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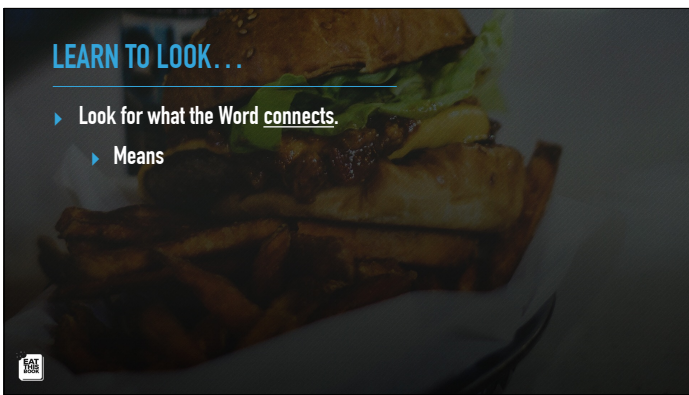
29



30



31



32

“How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word.”

Psalm 119:9 NIV

33

“For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.”

Romans 8:13-14 NIV

34

LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ Look for what the Word connects.
 - ▶ Means
 - ▶ Conditions
 - ▶ Look for “if” (the condition) and “then” (the consequence).

35

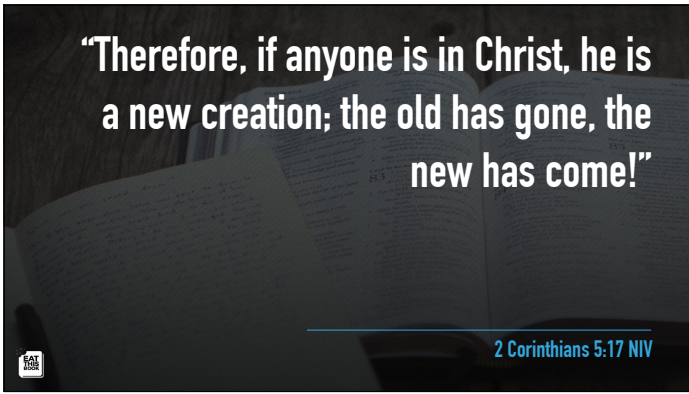
“If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.”

Deuteronomy 28:1 NIV

36

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”

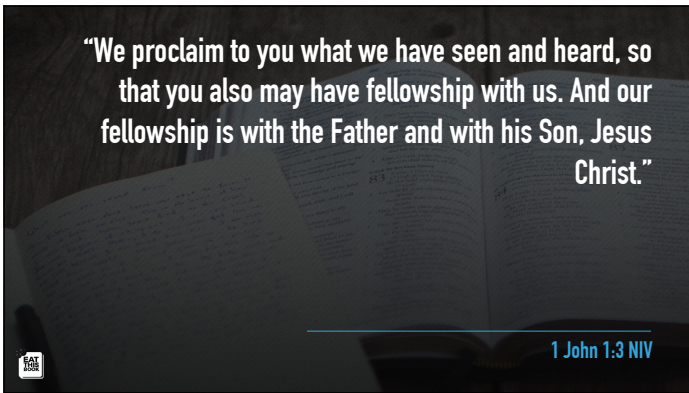
2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV



37

“We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.”

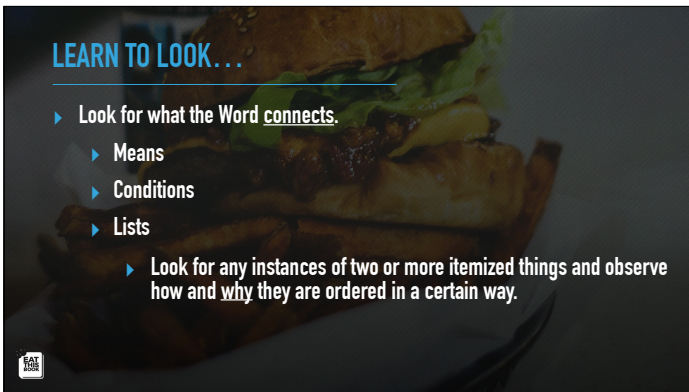
1 John 1:3 NIV



38

LEARN TO LOOK...

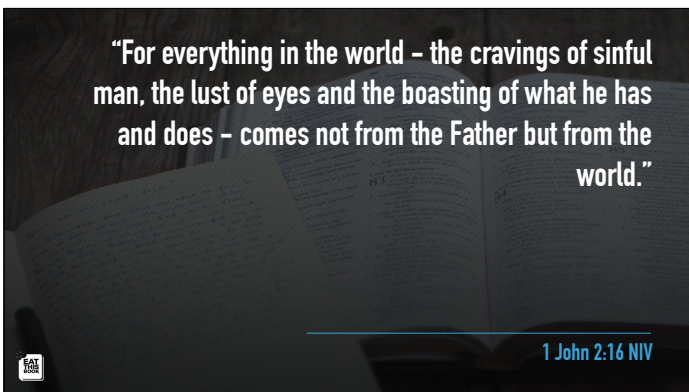
- ▶ Look for what the Word connects.
 - ▶ Means
 - ▶ Conditions
 - ▶ Lists
- ▶ Look for any instances of two or more itemized things and observe how and why they are ordered in a certain way.



39

“For everything in the world – the cravings of sinful man, the lust of eyes and the boasting of what he has and does – comes not from the Father but from the world.”

1 John 2:16 NIV



40

“Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.”

Colossians 3:5-8 NIV

41

LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ Look for what the Word connects.
 - ▶ Means
 - ▶ Conditions
 - ▶ Lists
 - ▶ Pronouns

42

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will –

Ephesians 1:3-14 NIV

43

“– to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

Ephesians 1:3-14 NIV

44

“And **he** made known to **us** the mystery of **his** will according to **his** good pleasure, which **he** purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment – to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

Ephesians 1:3-14 NIV

45

“In **him** we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of **him** who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of **his** will, in order that **we, who** were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. And **you** also were included in Christ when **you** heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

Ephesians 1:3-14 NIV

46

“Having believed, **you** were marked in **him** with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, **who** is a deposit guaranteeing **our** inheritance until the redemption of those **who** are God’s possession – to the praise of **his** glory.”

Ephesians 1:3-14 NIV

47

“If **they** have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning.”

2 Peter 2:20 NIV

48

LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ Look for what the Word connects.
 - ▶ Means
 - ▶ Conditions
 - ▶ Lists
 - ▶ Pronouns
 - ▶ Major Shifts – As you read larger units of text, look for critical places where the text seems to take a new turn.

49

“Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, ‘Go south to the road – the desert road – that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.’”

Acts 8:26 NIV

50

“Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. But now a righteousness from God, apart from the law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.”

Romans 3:20–21 NIV

51

“...to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.”

Ephesians 3:21–4:1 NIV

52

LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ Look for what the Word compares.
 - ▶ Simile
 - ▶ Look for expressed comparisons of two things that are different.

53

“As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God.”

Psalm 42:1 NIV

54

“Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”

John 3:14 NIV

55

“Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.”

1 Peter 2:2 NIV

56

LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ Look for what the Word compares.
 - ▶ Simile
 - ▶ Metaphor
 - ▶ Look for implied comparisons between two things that are different.

57

“When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go.

James 3:3-6 NIV

58

“Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body.”

James 3:3-6 NIV

59

LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ Look for what the Word compares.
 - ▶ Simile
 - ▶ Metaphor
 - ▶ Allegory
 - ▶ Look for instances where the author uses a certain image or comparison to communicate a deeper meaning in the text.

60

“Tell me, you who want to be under the law, are you not aware of what the law says? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman. His son by the slave woman was born in the ordinary way, but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a promise.

EAT THIS BOOK

Galatians 4:21-24; 28 NIV

61

“These things may be taken figuratively, for the women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves . . .

. . . No you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise.”

EAT THIS BOOK

Galatians 4:21-24; 28 NIV

62

LEARN TO LOOK . . .

- ▶ Look for what the Word compares.
 - ▶ Simile
 - ▶ Metaphor
 - ▶ Allegory
 - ▶ Type
- ▶ Look for instances where the author uses a symbolic picture to demonstrate something to come in the future.

EAT THIS BOOK

63

“Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come.”

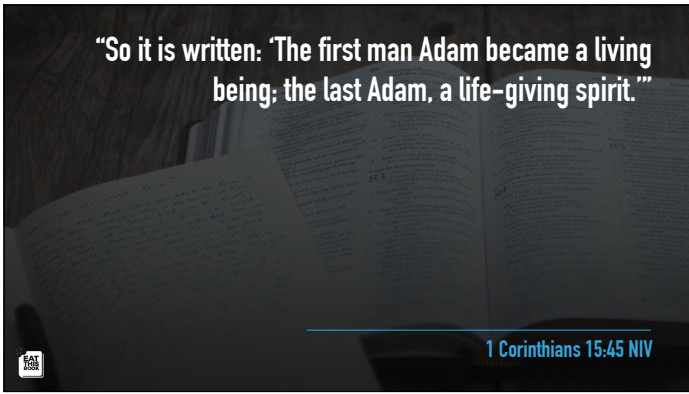
EAT THIS BOOK

Romans 5:14 NIV

64

“So it is written: ‘The first man Adam became a living being; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit.’”

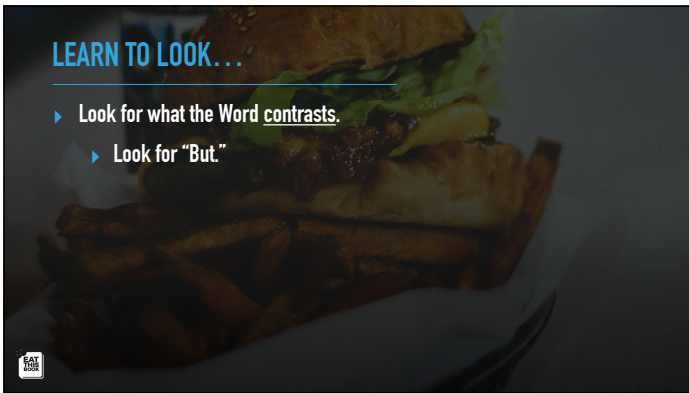
1 Corinthians 15:45 NIV



65

LEARN TO LOOK...

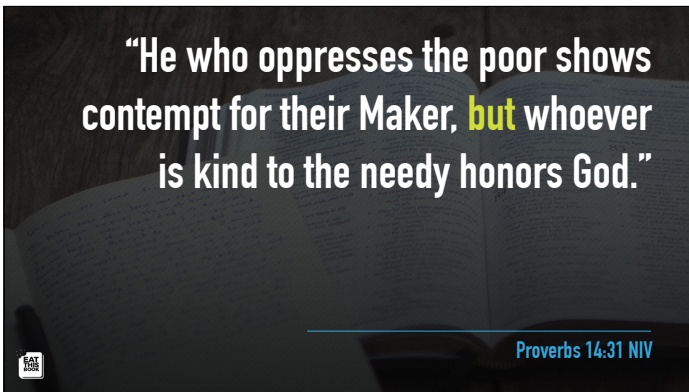
- ▶ Look for what the Word contrasts.
- ▶ Look for “But.”



66

“He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, **but** whoever is kind to the needy honors God.”

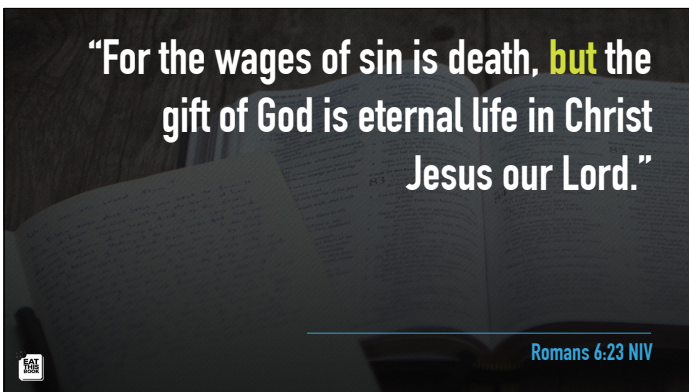
Proverbs 14:31 NIV



67

“For the wages of sin is death, **but** the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 6:23 NIV



68

LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ Look for what the Word contrasts.
 - ▶ Look for "But."
 - ▶ Look for contrasting metaphors.

69

"Which of you fathers, if you son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Luke 11:11-13 NIV

70

LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ Look for what the Word communicates.
 - ▶ Emotions
 - ▶ Look for words that convey particular feelings or emotions.

71

"I myself said, 'How gladly would I treat you like sons and give you a desirable land, the most beautiful inheritance of any nation. I thought you would call me 'Father' and not turn away from following me. But like a woman unfaithful to her husband, so you have been unfaithful to me, O house of Israel,' declares the Lord."

Jeremiah 3:19-20 NIV

72

“I plead with you, brothers, become like me, for I became like you. You have done me no wrong. As you know, it was because of an illness that I first preached the gospel to you. Even though my illness was a trial to you, you did not treat me with contempt or scorn. Instead, you welcomed me as if I were an angel of God, as if I were Christ Jesus himself.

EAT THIS BOOK

Galatians 4:12-16 NIV

73

“What has happened to all your joy? I can testify that, if you could have done so, you would have torn out your eyes and given them to me. Have I now become your enemy by telling you the truth?”

EAT THIS BOOK

Galatians 4:12-16 NIV

74

LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ Look for what the Word communicates.
 - ▶ Emotions
 - ▶ Mood
- ▶ Look for evidence of the author's demeanor as he writes.

EAT THIS BOOK

75

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!”

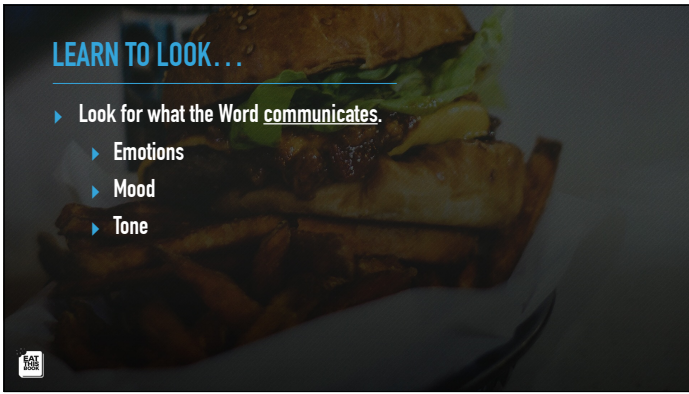
EAT THIS BOOK

Philippians 4:4 NIV

76

LEARN TO LOOK...

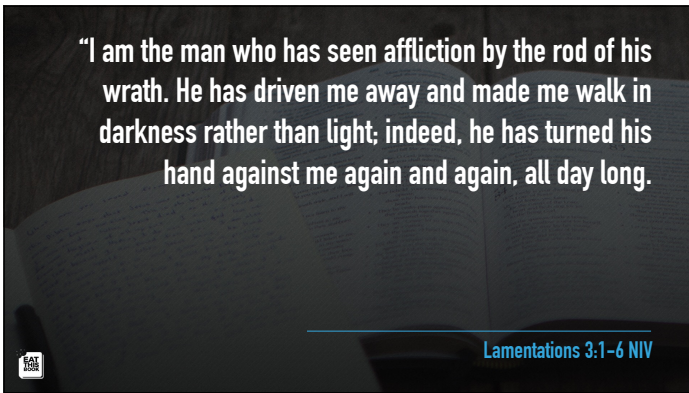
- ▶ Look for what the Word *communicates*.
 - ▶ Emotions
 - ▶ Mood
 - ▶ Tone



77

"I am the man who has seen affliction by the rod of his wrath. He has driven me away and made me walk in darkness rather than light; indeed, he has turned his hand against me again and again, all day long.

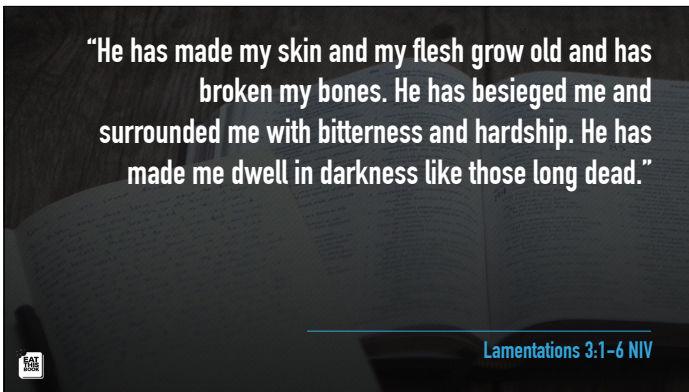
Lamentations 3:1-6 NIV



78

"He has made my skin and my flesh grow old and has broken my bones. He has besieged me and surrounded me with bitterness and hardship. He has made me dwell in darkness like those long dead."

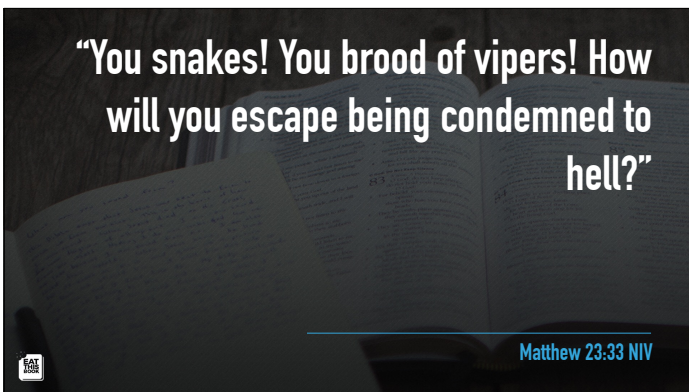
Lamentations 3:1-6 NIV



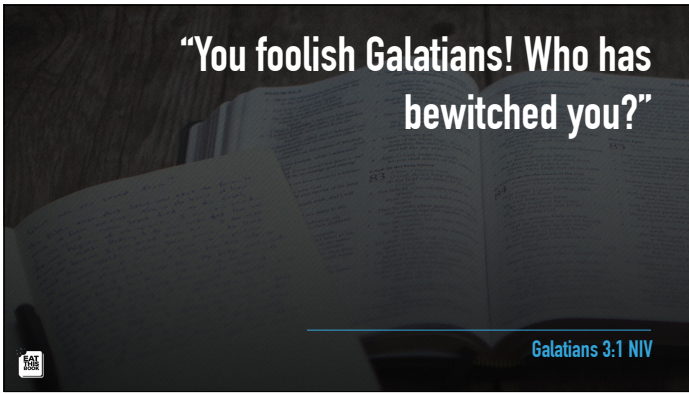
79

"You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell?"

Matthew 23:33 NIV



80



“You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you?”

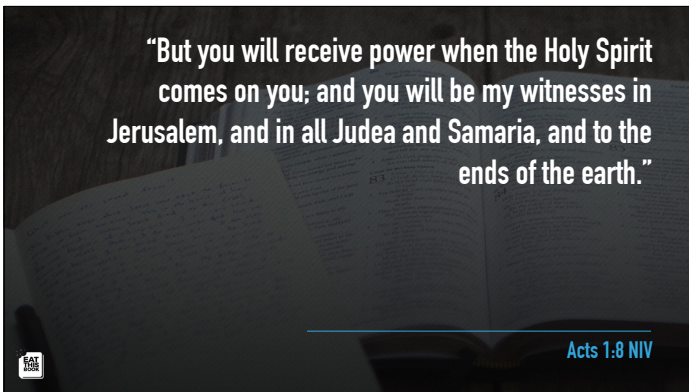
Galatians 3:1 NIV

81



OBSERVE THEIR HOME ▶ Observe individual verses.
“What do I see?” ▶ Observe paragraphs.
▶ Observe entire discourses.
▶ Be patient!

82



“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:8 NIV

83



**UNDERSTAND THEIR HOME:
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?**

84

CONTEXT, CONTEXT, CONTEXT...

- ▶ The definition of context: That which goes with the text.
- ▶ The dilemma created by context:
 - ▶ The Bible communicates eternal content.
 - ▶ The Bible communicates specific contexts.
 - ▶ How do we go from "then and there" to "here and now?"

85

CONTEXT, CONTEXT, CONTEXT...

- ▶ The dedication to context:
 - ▶ We work to step into the author's shoes and determine his original intent.
 - ▶ A biblical text can never mean what it never meant.
 - ▶ Context shapes meaning.
 - ▶ The rule of context: **CONTEXT RULES!**

86

CONTEXT, CONTEXT, CONTEXT...

- ▶ The diversity of contexts:
 - ▶ Our context
 - ▶ Their context

87

CONSIDER OUR CONTEXT

- ▶ Our Preunderstandings
 - ▶ All of our preconceived notions that we unconsciously bring to the text.
 - ▶ Our pride.
 - ▶ Our agenda. Two options:
 - ▶ Stand over the meaning of the text
 - ▶ Kneel under the meaning of the text
 - ▶ Our familiarity

88

CONSIDER OUR CONTEXT

- ▶ Our Preunderstandings
 - ▶ Our culture.

89

"If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other, also. If someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well... Give to the one who asks you, and don't turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you."

Matthew 5:39-40, 42 NIV

90

CONSIDER OUR CONTEXT

- ▶ Our Preunderstandings
 - ▶ Our culture.
 - ▶ Language
 - ▶ Customs
 - ▶ Stories
 - ▶ Family
 - ▶ Values
 - ▶ Economics
 - ▶ Politics
 - ▶ Ethnicity
 - ▶ Gender
 - ▶ Religion
 - ▶ Arts
 - ▶ Images

91

OUR GOAL

Minimize subjectivity!
(but not completely...)

92

CONTEXT, CONTEXT, CONTEXT...

▶ Our Presuppositions

- ▶ The Bible is inspired.
- ▶ The Bible is reliable.
- ▶ The Bible is unified.
- ▶ The Bible is diverse.
- ▶ The Bible is supernatural - it has tension and mystery to it.
- ▶ The Bible is purposeful.



93



94
