



OBSERVE THEIR HOME: WHAT DO I SEE?

OBSERVE THEIR HOME: WHAT DO I SEE?

Learn to listen.

Learn to look.

LEARN TO LISTEN...

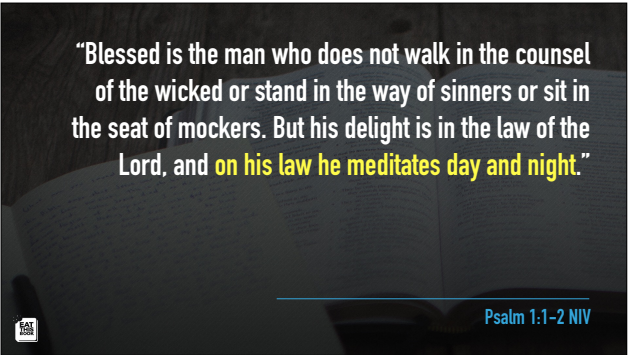
- ▶ Listen thoughtfully.
- ▶ Listen thoroughly.
- ▶ Listen repeatedly.
- ▶ Listen patiently.
- ▶ Listen imaginatively.
- ▶ Listen meditatively - take time to reflect.

JUST AS YOU DO NOT ANALYZE THE WORDS OF SOMEONE YOU LOVE, BUT YOU ACCEPT THEM AS THEY ARE SAID TO YOU, ACCEPT THE WORD OF SCRIPTURE AND PONDER IT IN YOUR HEART, AS MARY DID. THAT IS MEDITATION.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

"Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; **meditate on it day and night**, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

Joshua 1:8 NIV



“Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and **on his law he meditates day and night.**”

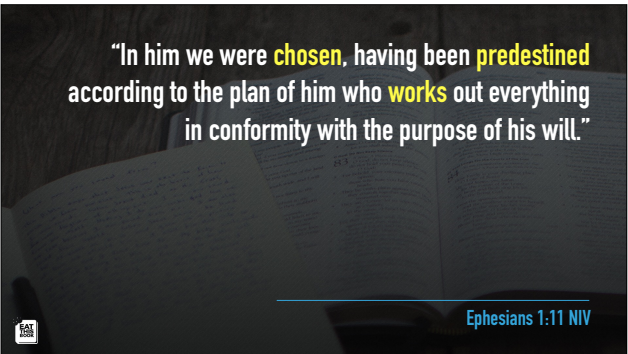
Psalm 1:1-2 NIV

LEARN TO LISTEN...

- ▶ Listen thoughtfully.
- ▶ Listen thoroughly.
- ▶ Listen repeatedly.
- ▶ Listen patiently.
- ▶ Listen imaginatively.
- ▶ Listen meditatively – take time to reflect.
- ▶ Listen purposefully.

LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ The art of Bible reading is seeing.
- ▶ Look for what the Word emphasizes.
 - ▶ Verbs – how does the author depict the action of the text?
 - ▶ Is the verb past, present, or future?

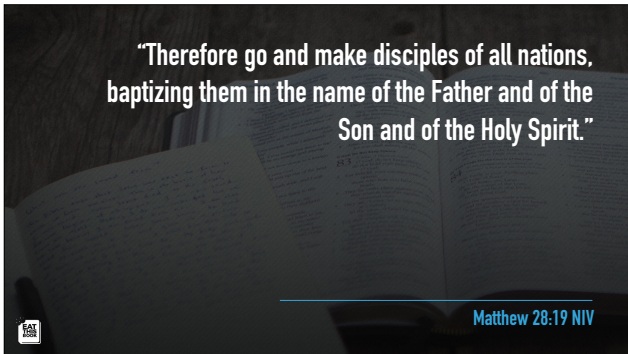


“In him we were **chosen**, having been **predestined** according to the plan of him who **works** out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will.”

Ephesians 1:11 NIV

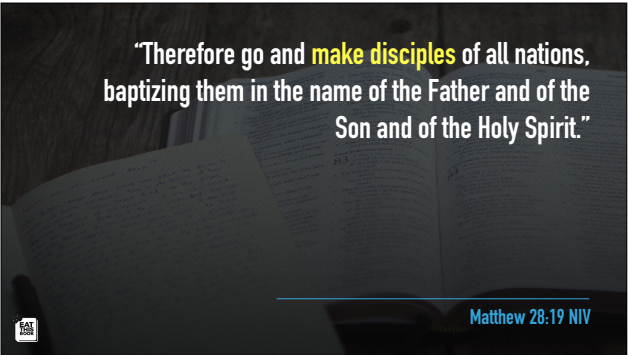
LEARN TO LOOK...

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 - ▶ Verbs – how does the author depict the action of the text?
 - ▶ Is the verb past, present, or future?
 - ▶ Is the verb imperative?



“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Matthew 28:19 NIV



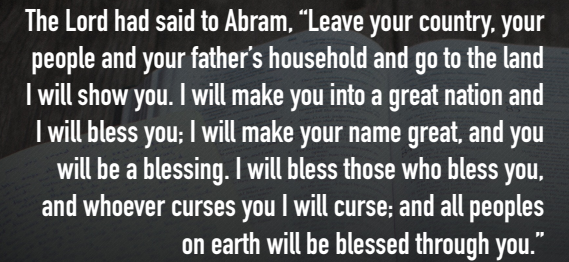
“Therefore go and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Matthew 28:19 NIV



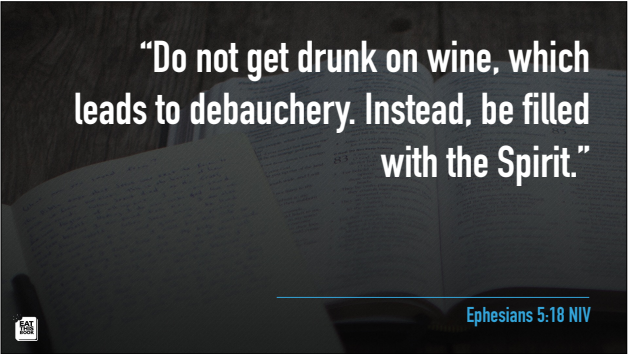
LEARN TO LOOK...

- The art of Bible reading is seeing.
- Look for what the Word emphasizes.
 - Verbs – how does the author depict the action of the text?
 - Is the verb past, present, or future?
 - Is the verb imperative?
 - Is the verb active or passive?



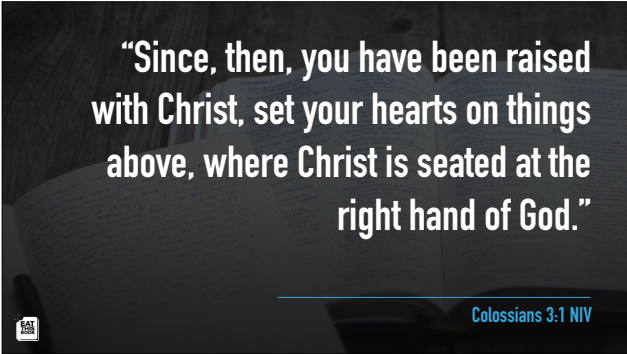
The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

Genesis 12:1–3 NIV



“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.”

Ephesians 5:18 NIV



“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.”

Colossians 3:1 NIV



LEARN TO LOOK...

- The art of Bible reading is seeing.
- Look for what the Word emphasizes.
 - Verbs – how does the author depict the action of the text?
 - Space – is the author devoting concentrated attention to a certain theme, character, or event?
 - Purpose statement – does the author describe why he says something or why something happens?

"See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the Lord my God commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it.

Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people."

Deuteronomy 4:5-6 NIV

"I have hidden your word in my heart
that I might not sin against you."

Psalms 119:11 NIV

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16 NIV

"Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

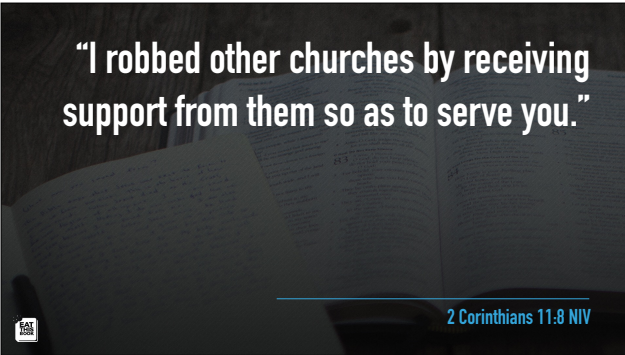
John 20:30-31 NIV

LEARN TO LOOK...

- The art of Bible reading is seeing.
- Look for what the Word emphasizes.
 - Order – is the author giving strategic importance to something by putting it in a certain order?
 - Exaggeration – does the author exaggerate something for intentional effect or emphasis?

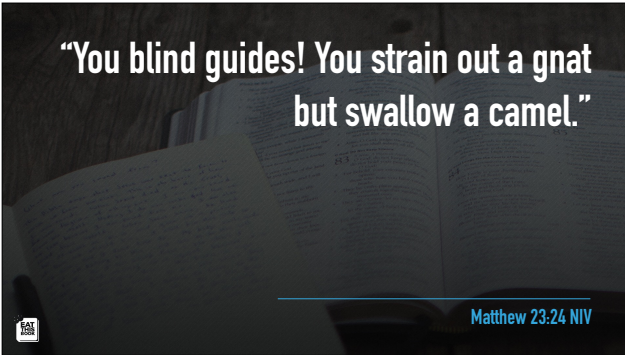
"My soul is consumed with longing for
your laws at all times."

Psalms 119:20 NIV



"I robbed other churches by receiving support from them so as to serve you."

2 Corinthians 11:8 NIV



"You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel."

Matthew 23:24 NIV



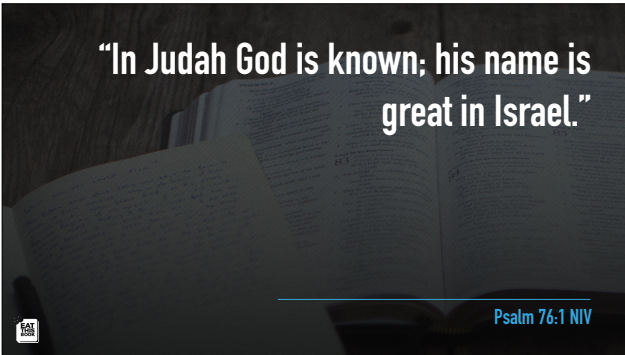
LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ The art of Bible reading is seeing.
- ▶ Look for what the Word emphasizes.
 - ▶ Order – is the author giving strategic importance to something by putting it in a certain order?
 - ▶ Exaggeration – does the author exaggerate something for intentional effect or emphasis?
 - ▶ Chiasm – does the author highlight a main idea through a parallel structure in the text?



LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ The art of Bible reading is seeing.
- ▶ Look for what the Word emphasizes.
 - ▶ Chiasm – does the author highlight a main idea through a parallel structure in the text?



"In Judah God is known; his name is great in Israel."

Psalms 76:1 NIV



LEARN TO LOOK...

- ▶ Look for what the Word repeats.
 - ▶ Terms, phrases, and clauses

"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

"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

"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

LEARN TO LOOK...

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

LEARN TO LOOK...

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

"**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

"**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

"**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

LEARN TO LOOK...

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

"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

"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

LEARN TO LOOK...

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

"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.

Galatians 5:16-23 NIV

"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.

Galatians 5:16-23 NIV

"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."

Galatians 5:16-23 NIV

LEARN TO LOOK...

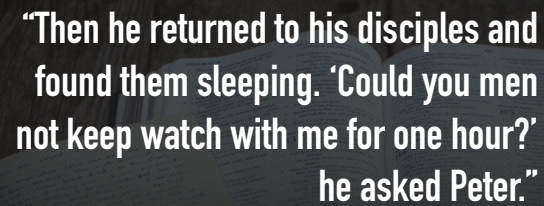
- ▶ Look for what the Word connects.
 - ▶ Conjunctions
 - ▶ Prepositions
 - ▶ General and Specific
 - ▶ Question and answer

"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

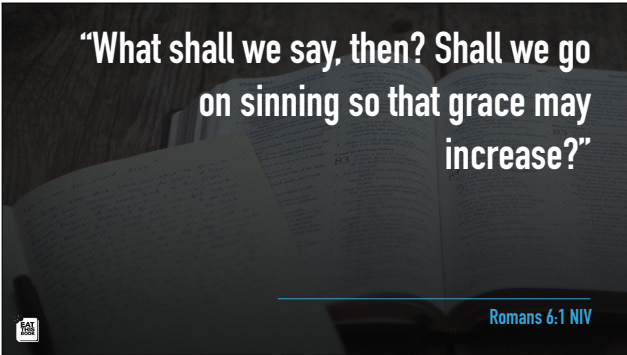
"'A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If I am a father, where is the honor due me? If I am a master, where is the respect due me?' says the Lord Almighty. 'It is you, O priests, who show contempt for my name.' But you ask, 'How have we shown contempt for your name?'"

Malachi 1:6 NIV



"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



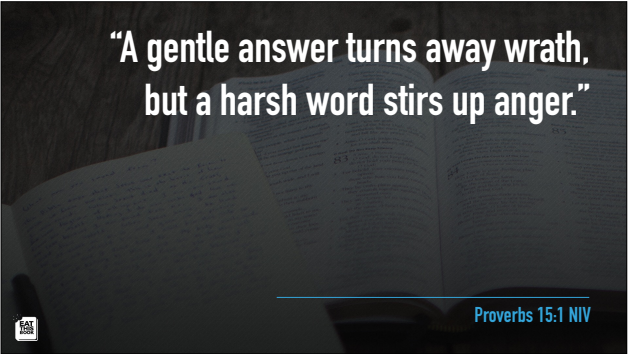
"What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?"

Romans 6:1 NIV



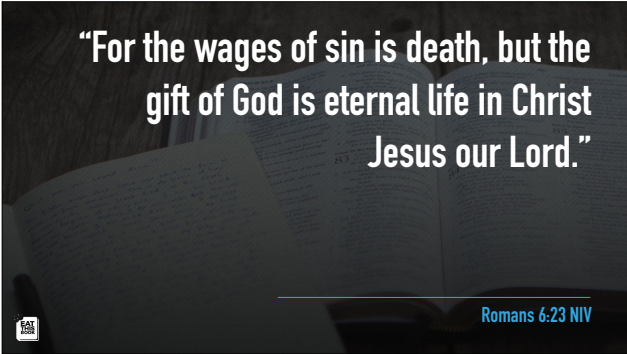
LEARN TO LOOK...

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



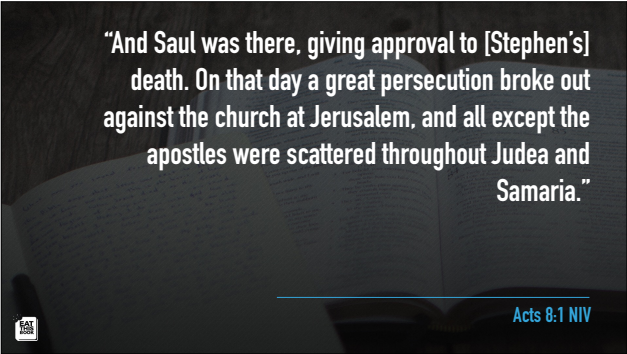
"A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

Proverbs 15:1 NIV



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

Romans 6:23 NIV



"And Saul was there, giving approval to [Stephen's] death. On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria."

Acts 8:1 NIV

LEARN TO LOOK...

- Look for what the Word connects.
 - Means

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

Psalm 119:9 NIV

“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

LEARN TO LOOK...

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

“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

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

2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV

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.

"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

"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

LEARN TO LOOK...

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

"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

"– 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

"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

"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

"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

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.

"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

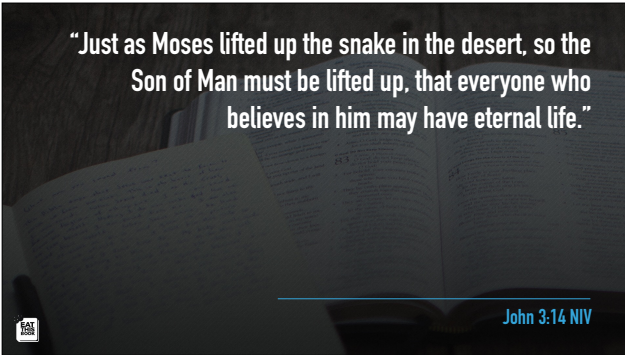
LEARN TO LOOK...

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



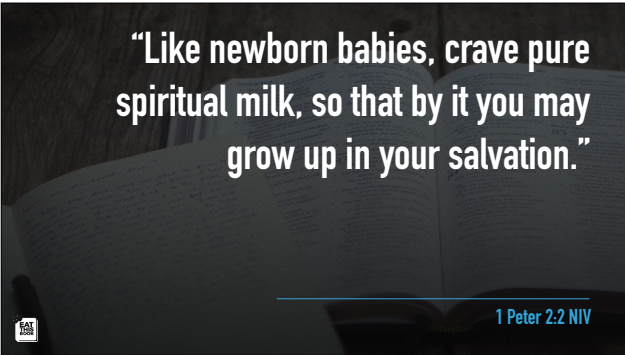
"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God."

Psalms 42:1 NIV



"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



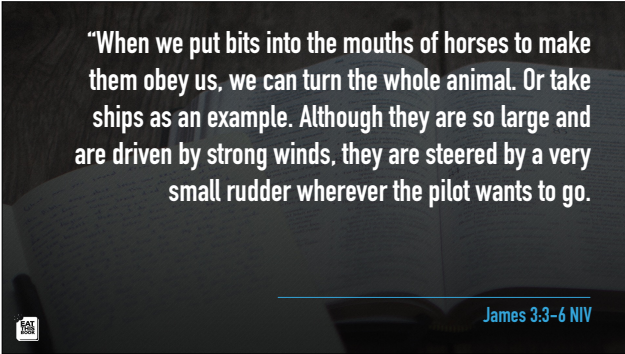
"Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation."

1 Peter 2:2 NIV



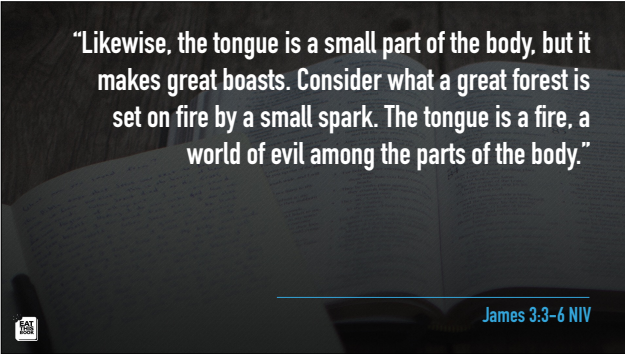
LEARN TO LOOK...

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



"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



"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

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.

"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.

Galatians 4:21-24; 28 NIV

"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."

Galatians 4:21-24; 28 NIV

LEARN TO LOOK...

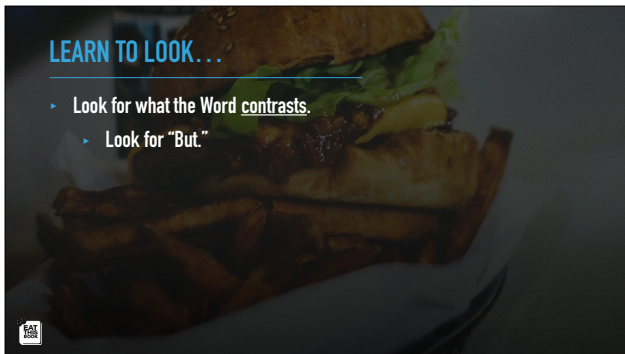
- Look for what the Word compares.
 - Simile
 - Metaphor
 - Allegory
 - Type
 - Look for instances where the author uses a symbolic picture to demonstrate something to come in the future.

"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."

Romans 5:14 NIV

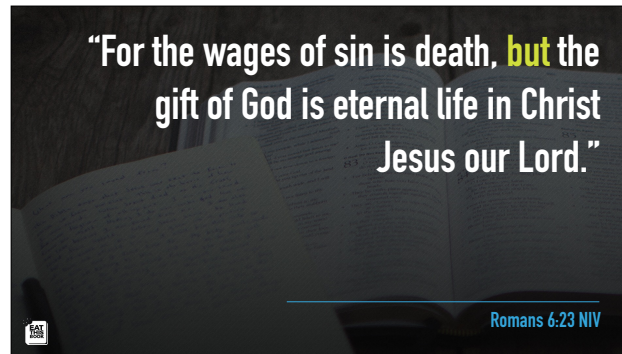

"So it is written: 'The first man Adam became a living being; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit.'"

1 Corinthians 15:45 NIV



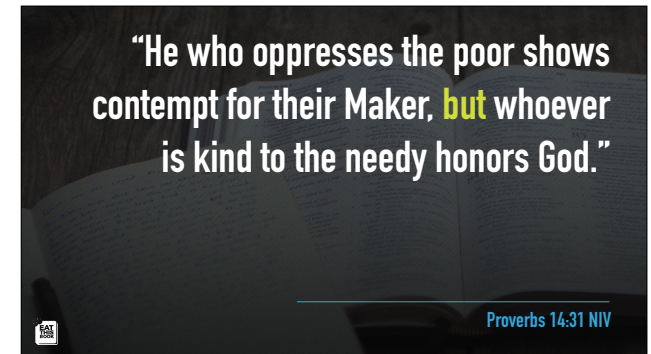

LEARN TO LOOK...

- Look for what the Word contrasts.
 - Look for "But."



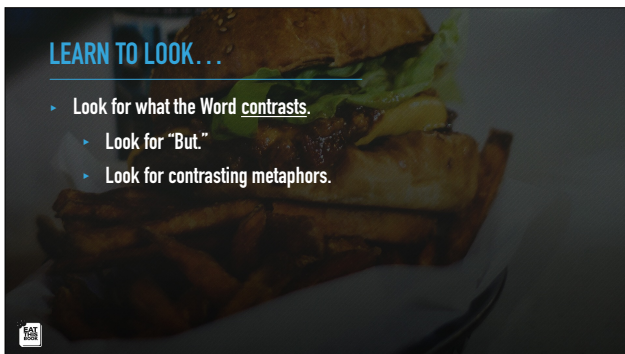

"For the wages of sin is death, **but** the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 6:23 NIV



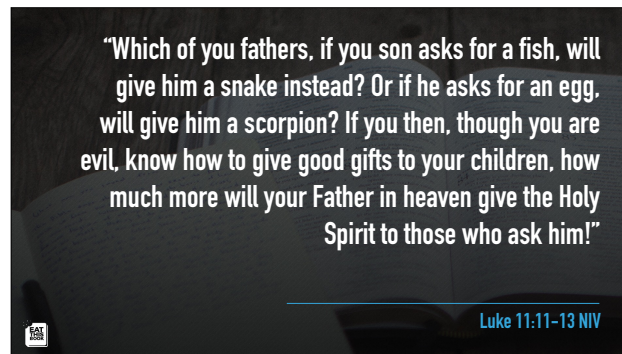

"He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, **but** whoever is kind to the needy honors God."

Proverbs 14:31 NIV



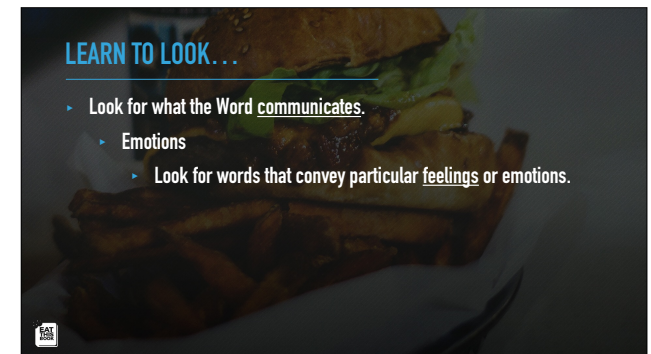

LEARN TO LOOK...

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




"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



LEARN TO LOOK...

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



"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

"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."

Galatians 4:12-16 NIV

"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?"

Galatians 4:12-16 NIV

LEARN TO LOOK...

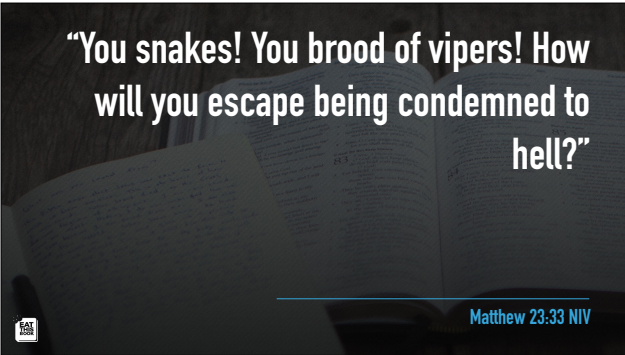
- ▶ Look for what the Word communicates.
 - ▶ Emotions
 - ▶ Mood
 - ▶ Look for evidence of the author's demeanor as he writes.

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

Philippians 4:4 NIV

LEARN TO LOOK...

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



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

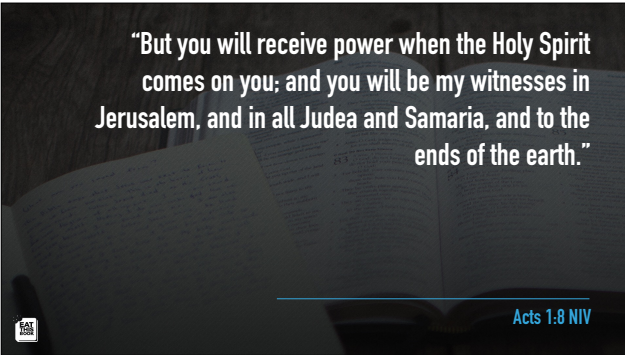
Matthew 23:33 NIV



OBSERVE THEIR HOME

“What do I see?”

- ▶ Observe individual verses.
- ▶ Observe paragraphs.
- ▶ Observe entire discourses.
- ▶ Be patient!



“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



**EAT
THIS
BOOK**

Devouring the Word of God