

TAN-ning in God's Word

1. – Why do I need to study the Bible in a certain way?

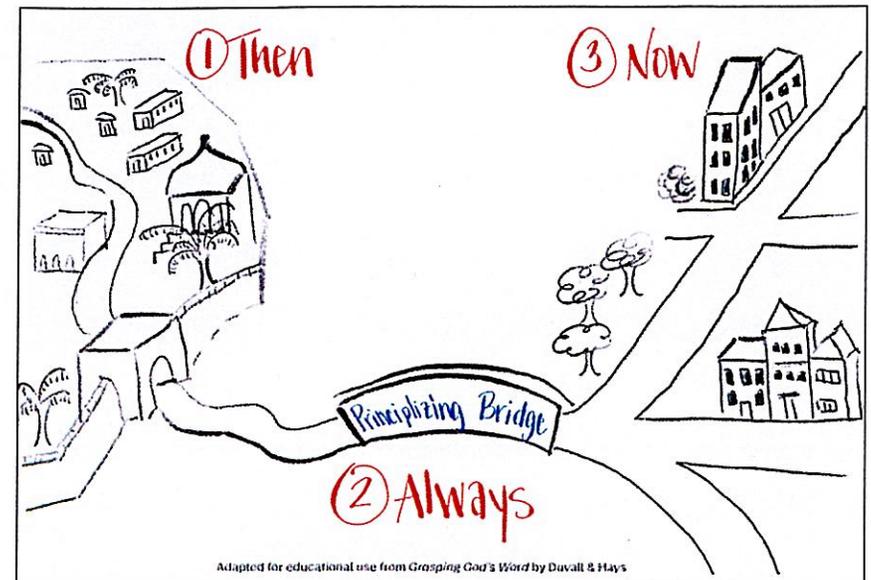
- The Bible can be hard to understand.
 - Written by 40+ authors over a 1500 year span, by people we don't actually know, to people we also don't know, in a language other than English, and through many different literary styles.
- The Bible needs to be understood.
 - These are the words of God and carry all of God's authority.
 - When we read the Bible, we should expect to be taught, rebuked, corrected, and trained in righteousness by it (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
 - God uses the Bible to make us more like Jesus, so can we be like Jesus without understanding it?
 - God's words are perfect and true (Psalm 19).
- The Bible can be misunderstood.
 - In order to understand it rightly, I must be a good student of it.
 - Many people use the Bible to try to help others without knowing the original intention of the verse they use. Have you done this?

2. – How do I apply all 12 articles to my Bible study in a practical way?

Here is an easy-to-understand way to apply the previous 12 articles into your personal Bible study. This is called the "T.A.N. Method."

- **BEFORE YOU T.A.N....**
 - Ask & answer these important questions about the book you're studying:
 - WHO: author and audience
 - WHAT: summary of what the whole book says and is about
 - WHERE: setting
 - WHEN: immediate context – fit it into the biblical timeline
 - WHY: occasion and purpose for writing it

This is a summary article on hermeneutics. Content adapted by Gracie Nelson from *Grasping God's Word* by Duvall and Hays & "How to Use the TAN Bible Study Method" by Pastor Jacob Mock



- **HOW YOU T.A.N....**
 - **T = THEN**
 - Write the truth the author was communicating back THEN in your own words.
 - This is not just a summary, but an explanation of what was being communicated in the text.
 - Use words like He, They, Them, Then.
 - **A = ALWAYS**
 - Write the principle (eternal truth) that the text is teaching. Make sure it isn't limited to a particular time or place, and making sure to think of truths about God and His expectations for people.
 - Use words like Us, We, Believers, Always.
 - **N = NOW**
 - Write what you need to change in your life based the principle from this passage.
 - Be honest and be specific.
 - Use words like I, Me, My, This Week, Now, Today.
- **AFTER YOU T.A.N....**
 - **Remember:** you can only interpret and apply Scripture with the Holy Spirit's help (1 Corinthians 2:12-16), so:
 - **Pray:**
 - For God to help you keep T.A.N.-ning with Scripture, and
 - For God to help you put into practice your application from the "NOW" section.