Passage:

Observation

ASK What does the text *say*?

PRACTISE:

- Who?
- What?
- Where?
- Why?
- How?
- Repeated words?

Interpretation

ASK: What does the text *mean*?

PRACTISE:

Write one sentence that summarises the main point in the original setting

> [the human author] wrote to [the original recipients] that [main point of passage]

Now rewrite that one sentence but in terms of a “timeless truth” that is true for both the original setting as well as true for any other setting

> [the divine author] wrote to [all mankind] that [main point of passage]

Application

ASK: What does the text *require* of me?

PRACTISE:

- Is there a character trait of God to praise?
- Is there a truth to believe?
- Is there a promise to hold on to?
- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there an example to follow?
- Is there a sin to avoid?
- Is there a sin to repent from?
- Is there a behaviour to start?