

name \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_



# Firsthand Truth Study Guide

Spiritually Feed Yourself!

## 1 / Define Passage of Study

Determine the passage of scripture to study / Don't take too big of a passage at one time. Probably a paragraph or two will be plenty.

2 /  
next  
page

### 3a / Immediate Context

**Passage Before:**

*Main idea --*

**This Passage:**

*Main idea --*

**Passage After:**

*Main idea --*

### 3b / Book Context

What is this book's unique contribution to the Bible?

Find/Develop a simple overview or outline of the book.



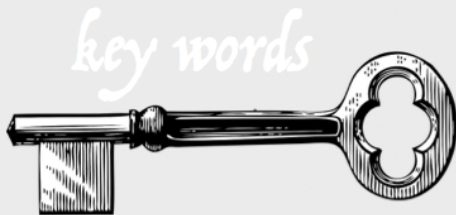
## 2 / Write Out the Passage

## 4 / Observations

## Some Helpful Steps

- **Circle** conjunctions and transitions  
(for, by, therefore, and, etc.)
- **Box** significant nouns/subjects
- **Underline** significant verbs.  
Consider if you can their tense.
- **Draw arrows** between ideas that are  
compared or contrasted.
- **List out direct commands** below...

Transfer these to Step 10



## List Out Observations...



5a / Questions

Question #1:

Thoughts / Answers:

Question #2:

Thoughts / Answers:

Question #3:

Thoughts / Answers:

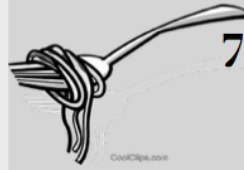
5b / Cross References





## 6 / The Subject

In one word, what is this passage about?  
Use this space to brainstorm first...  
CHECK THE KEY WORDS IN STEP 4

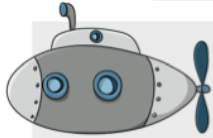


## 7 / The Compliment

Once you determine what the passage is about, describe what it says about that subject...

The Subject is...

The Compliment is...



## 8 / Sub-Points!



## 9 / Illustrations or Parallels from Life...

## 10 / Application to Life

How Should These  
Things be Applied?  
Thoughts /  
Brainstorming /  
Etc /



List of Direct Commands from Step #4

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Things to consider...

How These Things Effect you Personally

Your Intellect... *the way you think*

Your Emotion... *the way you feel*

Your Will... *the things you want to do or do*

How These ThingsThe Way You Treat Others

At home...

At Work/School...

Other Christians / Your Witness

## 11 / Implications of This Passage



If I do apply this, then these **positive** things will/might follow...

If I don't apply this, and am not obedient, then these **negative** things will/might follow...

## 12 / Specific Application Points!

Take some time to pray about the application points in Step 10. Ask the Lord to help you apply them to your lives in specific, measurable, and achievable goals or action points...

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

# Some Thoughts on the Firsthand Truth Study Guide

---

1. **Define your Passage** / try to find a passage that is not too big, but is a recognized pericope of scripture. One way to do this is to pick a passage that is defined in your Bible translation as a paragraph or two.
2. **Write out the Passage** / This is not busy work, it's really helpful in getting to know the passage.
3. **Immediate Context / Book Context** / To help you think through how this passage fits with the rest of the book, this is real critical. Could change your interpretation, which is discovered in step 6 and 7.
4. **Observation** / take some time and be a detective, noticing as much as you can about the passage at hand.
5. **Questions / Cross References** / Now, don't be afraid to admit that sometimes things don't make sense. Write out some frank questions you have in understanding the passage / Also, take time to look at other scriptural passages, because *scripture best interprets scripture*.
6. **The Subject** / take some time and determine what the topic of your passage is. This is extremely important. Brainstorm options, and then try to determine what the topic is.
7. **The Compliment** / This answers the question "what does this passage say about the topic?" These two things give you the skeleton of what is your interpretation.
8. **Sub Points** / Are there any obvious sub points made in this passage about the subject and compliment. I've put four squares here, but you might only find two or three.
9. **Illustrations and Parallels from Life** / Any physical illustrations you can use to help illustrate or explain these spiritual truths. Jesus used Parables for this.
10. **Application** / How do we apply this to our lives?
11. **Implications** / What happens if we do these things? What happens if we don't.
12. **Specific Application Points** / How do we apply this in practical, measurable, and specific ways.
13. **Quotes from Others** / Other authors or scholars have something to say about this passage or topic? Write them down!

## 13 / Quotes from Others

A vertical stack of 13 empty rectangular boxes for writing quotes, with a gray border and three gray circles on the right side.