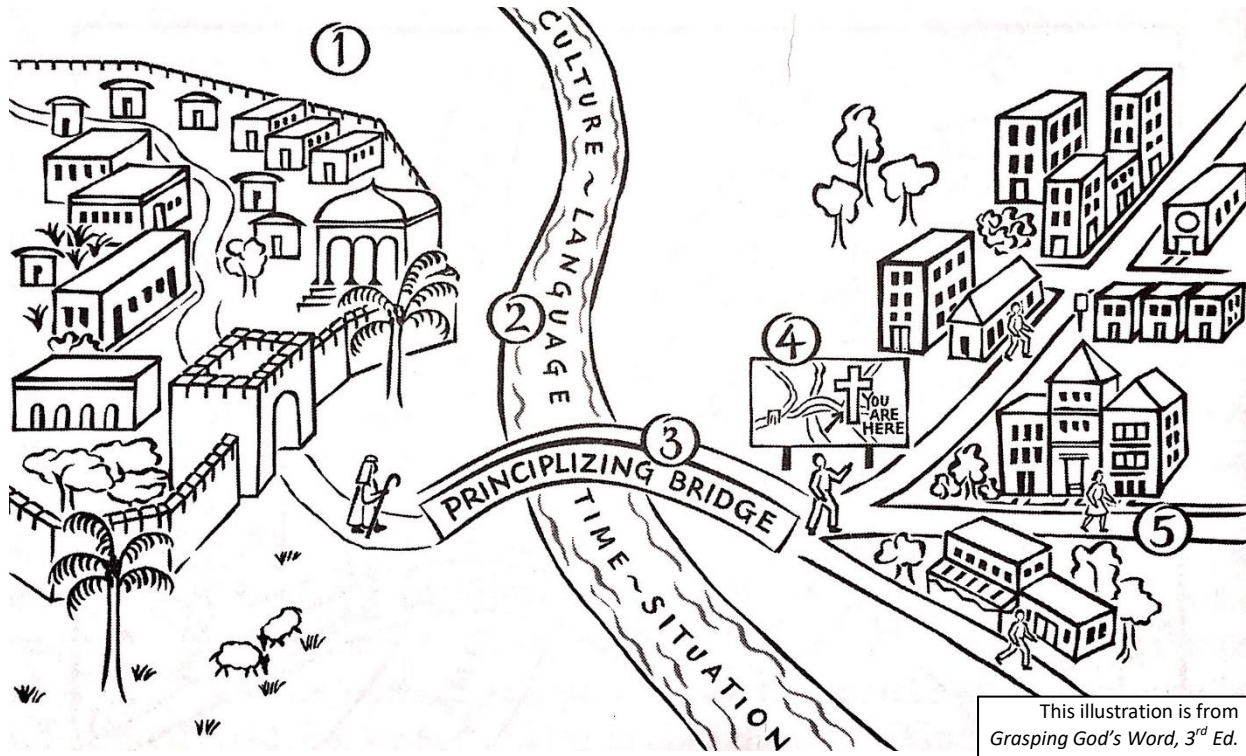


# How to Read The Book

Lesson 3—Who Controls the Meaning?<sup>1</sup>

## Review of the Journey



**Step 1: Grasp the text in their town.** What did the text mean to the \_\_\_\_\_?

**Step 2: Measure the width of the river.** What are the \_\_\_\_\_ between the biblical audience and us?

**Step 3: Cross the principlizing bridge.** What is the \_\_\_\_\_ in this text?

**Step 4: Consult the biblical map.** How does this theological principle \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_?

**Step 5: Grasp the text in our town.** How should individual \_\_\_\_\_ today \_\_\_\_\_ the principle?

## Who Controls the Meaning?

### Authorial Intent

This approach assumes that the \_\_\_\_\_ determines the meaning of a text.

### Reader Response

This approach argues that meaning is determined by the \_\_\_\_\_ or a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>1</sup>This course is based primarily on content from *Grasping God's Word: A Hands-On Approach to Reading, Interpreting, and Applying the Bible, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*, by J. Scott Duvall and J. Daniel Hays (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012).

## Communication—The Central Issue

One of our foundational beliefs is that the Bible is the Word of God, and functions \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. Therefore, we read the Bible seeking the author's intent.

We do not \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_. Rather, we seek to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_  
that has been placed there by the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Definitions

**Author:** Both God and man are the "author" when it comes to the Bible because God used men to write His words down.

**Meaning:** that which the \_\_\_\_\_ wishes to convey with his \_\_\_\_\_.

**Application:** \_\_\_\_\_ as the \_\_\_\_\_ to the meaning of the text.

## Determining What the Author Meant

### Bible Study Questions

Not: "What does the passage mean to you?"

But: "What does this passage *mean*?" and then "How should you *apply* this meaning in your life?"

The biblical \_\_\_\_\_ used grammar, syntax, word meanings, literary context, historical context, and a host of literary devices to communicate \_\_\_\_\_.

## Spiritualizing

Our desire to find a \_\_\_\_\_ meaning often takes us right past the \_\_\_\_\_  
meaning.

The Bible is a \_\_\_\_\_ book dealing with \_\_\_\_\_ issues. We do not have to  
\_\_\_\_\_ with our imagination!

**Literal Meaning:** a meaning that doesn't consider \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Literary Meaning:** the \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_ in the text.

## Allegory

### What is an allegory?

A story that uses an extensive amount of \_\_\_\_\_.

Allegorical interpreters tend to find a deeper meaning without asking what the \_\_\_\_\_ might  
have meant to the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Foreshadowing and Typology

\_\_\_\_\_ draws from Old Testament passages and then points forward to their  
\_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.

A type is a "biblical event, person, or institution which serves as an example or pattern for other events, persons, or institutions."