

Hello to those who are eager and hungry.

When I first started doing ministry, I was lost. I had just come back to the church and I had no clue how to study the Word. No one had ever taught me. This is the biggest disservice we can do to others who want to know Christ. Learning how to study the Word is not about gaining knowledge. It is about learning about who the Lord is and what the Lord is trying to tell you. Find out for yourself what the Word says. This is your armor. When you grow this dialect, your life will change in ways you never thought possible. John 15:5 tells us,

*“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (NOTHING)*

Scripture must always be interpreted through the author’s intent and not the reader’s response. The following are filters to help us discern what the author (the Lord) said instead of us assuming what He meant. Do not think you need to use every filter in every verse. Some filters may not apply to every verse. Myself along with many of my Disciple making friends refer to this form of study as Eat the Word. The verse that best explains this for me is:

*Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. Jeremiah 15:16*

**Disclaimer: I did not invent these filters.** Many of these were taught to me and a couple I felt needed to be added because there were things that I learned, and they helped me see the bigger picture when studying the Word. Feel free to share this knowledge with others. It may help someone hear the voice of the Lord!

If you are needing someone to come to your church or small group to teach these filters in depth, please feel free to email a request to: [Andi@andichorley.com](mailto:Andi@andichorley.com)

(I have placed the filters on a second page so you can print just that page if you want.)

Grace & Peace

*Chorley*

## *Eat the Word*

- 1) **Repetition of Words** (Example: John 21:15-17)
  - a. How many times?
  - b. Same meaning each time?
- 2) **Contrast** (Example: Proverbs 25:26)
  - a. What is being contrasted and usually denoted by the word “but”?
- 3) **Comparison** (Example: Proverbs 25:26)
  - a. What two items are being compared?
  - b. What similarities are being drawn?
- 4) **Lists** (Example: Ephesians 1:4-10)
  - a. What items are being listed?
  - b. What is the significance of the list?
- 5) **Cause and Effect** (Example: John 15:5-6)
  - a. If you\_\_\_\_, then you will\_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. If you do not\_\_\_\_, then\_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) **Conjunctions** (Example: Colossians 3:12)
  - a. Look for “and”, “but”, “therefore”
  - b. Investigate why those words are there...GO BACK.
- 7) **Verbs** (Example: Colossians 3:1)
  - a. Action, state of being, or occurrence
  - b. Past/Present/Future
  - c. Subject- who did the action?
  - d. Object- who received the action?
  - e. Is the verb imperative (a command)
- 8) **Pronouns** (Example: Ephesians 1:3)
  - a. Who is the “us, we, they, you, your”?
- 9) **Word meaning** (BibleHub.com)
  - a. Look back to the original text.
  - b. Was it in Greek or Hebrew? (Rarely but occasionally Aramaic)
  - c. Find the contextual reference, not just the definition
- 10) **Cross References**
  - a. What scripture are you reminded of?
  - b. Where does cross reference of bible hub or study bible take you?
- 11) **Historical Context**
  - a. What was the current political climate?
  - b. What was current and common when text was written?
- 12) **Jesus Letter**
  - a. This is where you go through and write out the voice of the Lord for you. This is not where you rewrite scripture in your own words.
  - b. Example: *Andi, know that I chose you before the foundation, this means that I already knew the heartache you would face but I also knew how it would grow you and change you. Remember that all things work together for my good. Hold fast to the Hope I give you. – Jesus (This was one letter I wrote after studying some from Ephesians)*