

## Lesson 2 – How to read the book – sentences

### Handout

#### Preliminary work

- I. Read entire book in one setting (if possible) to get an idea of the context of your target passage
- II. Identify How wide is the river is that divides us from the original recipients
  - a. Who wrote the book and who was it written to?
  - b. What was their situation, covenant, culture, language, etcetera...?
- III. Choose your target passage and observe what it says
  - a. It is important to note that at this point we are not making application yet. We are simply observing what the writer originally wrote to the original recipients.
  - b. Make as many observations as possible about your target passage.

#### What to make note of

- I. **Repetition of words or phrases** - Once you have identified the repeated words, examine the way that those words are used. What modifying words are used with those repeated words?
- II. **Contrasts** - Differences between two or more things.
- III. **Comparisons** - Similarities between two or more things.
- IV. **Lists** - Explore the significance. Is there an order? Are there groups?
- V. **Cause and effect** - Identifying cause and effect can help us establish risks and rewards for actions.
- VI. **Figures of speech** - These are images in which words are used in a sense other than the normal, literal sense.
  - a. Ask yourself: “What image is the Author trying to convey with the figure of speech?”
- VII. **Conjunctions** - The small words that connect the bigger words together. How do these modify our understanding of the larger words used?
- VIII. **Pronouns** - These replace Nouns. Pay attention to what the pronoun is referring to (the Antecedent).
- IX. **Verbs – where all the action is** - What kind of verb is used (Past, present, future). Are they active or passive?