



Substitution

Directions

Below are instructions and an audio presentation to help you better understand this study skill. Please use a different study skill every week so that you can learn and understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ most effectively.

Substitution

Purpose:

Adds clarity, takes advantage of connotation, aids application.

How:

- Insert your own name
- Follow the pronoun
- Look for words (Footnotes, Bible Dictionary, 1829 Webster's, etc.)
- Regular definitions
- Archaic Words
- The Lord's definitions

Listen to the short audio presentation on this study skill: [Substitution](#)

You are encouraged to do 7 different study skills over the course of the semester. There are 9 to choose from.



Setting

Directions

Below are directions and a video to help you better understand this study skill. Please use a different study skill every week so that you can learn and understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ most effectively.

Setting

How:

In determining the setting three questions must be answered:

- Who?
- Where?
- When?

Listen to the short audio presentation on this study skill: [Setting](#)

You are encouraged to do 7 different study skills over the course of the semester. There are 9 to choose from.



Study Skill - Principles and Doctrine

Directions

Below are directions and a video to help you better understand this study skill. Please use a different study skill every week so that you can learn and understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ most effectively.

Principles and Doctrine

"Programs blindly followed bring us to a discipline of doing good, but principles properly understood and practiced bring us to a disposition to do good" (Glenn L. Pace, *Ensign*, May, 1986, 24.).

Principles: "Principles are concentrated truth, packaged for application to a wide variety of circumstances" (Richard G. Scott, *Ensign*, Nov. 1993, 86). "A principle is an enduring truth, a law, a rule you can adopt to guide you in making decisions" (Boyd K. Packer, *Ensign*, April 1996, 22). "A converting principle is one that leads to obedience to the will of God" (Eyring, CES 1996).

Principles are:

- portable

Doctrine: "From doctrine, we learn principles of conduct, how to respond to problems of everyday living, even to failures, for they too are provided for in the doctrines" (Boyd K. Packer, *Ensign*, May 1994, 20).

Doctrines are:

- Unchanging Truth
- Eternal Laws
- Fundamental beliefs

How:

How do you find principles & doctrines? What questions should you ask?

- Thus we see ...
- What are the unchanging truths, eternal laws, fundamental beliefs at work here?

- What can I learn and apply?
- What is the moral of the story?
- So what? or Therefore what?
- Homilies (an inspirational catchphrase).

Listen to the short audio presentation on this study skill: [Principles and Doctrine](#)

You are encouraged to do 7 different study skills over the course of the semester. There are 9 to choose from.



Study Skill - List

Directions

Below are directions and a video to help you better understand this study skill. Please use a different study skill every week so that you can learn and understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ most effectively.

List

Purpose:

Scriptural lists allow us to expand our "selective perception." Once you see something and your mind is drawn to that object, you rarely will miss it again. Items on scriptural lists have purposeful grouping; items are included and excluded for a purpose. The Lord uses lists as a powerful tool to help us remember, organize, structure, prioritize, simplify, clarify, etc. critical components of His gospel.

How:

At discovering a list, ask the question, "Is this a general list or is it an ordered list?"

- General
- Ordered—What is implied by the order?
- Chronology
- Hierarchy
- Process

Listen to the short audio presentation on this study skill: [List](#)

You are encouraged to do 7 different study skills over the course of the semester. There are 9 to choose from.



Study Skill - Clustering

Directions

Below are directions and a video to help you better understand this study skill. Please use a different study skill every week so that you can learn and understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ most effectively.

Clustering

We often refer to clustering as cross-referencing.

Purpose:

"Cluster your scriptures together so that the Old Testament scripture on a particular topic is related by you to a scripture in the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, the Pearl of Great Price, the New Testament, and to the utterances of the living prophets. The scriptures of the Church need each other. ...they help each other. ...Cluster the scriptures topically as if they were a bunch of grapes from which you then squeeze all the juice, and distill all the meaning" (Neal A. Maxwell, Address to CES, 16 Aug. 1979).

How:

Search in Footnotes, Topical Guide, Index, Bible Dictionary, Conference Reports, etc.

Listen to the short audio presentation on this study skill: [Clustering](#)

You are encouraged to do 7 different study skills over the course of the semester. There are 9 to choose from.



Study Skill - Flag Phrases

Directions

Below are directions and a video to help you better understand this study skill. Please use a different study skill every week so that you can learn and understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ most effectively.

Flag Phrases

Purpose:

Included in the writings of the prophets to draw your attention. These are words that are included to add emphasis, to draw your attention, or to cause you to focus. They act as a stop sign on a page and are leading to look and see what is going on.

How:

Look for some of the following words and literary styles.

- Words—Yea, behold, even, and it came to pass, etc.
- Summary Phrases—Thus we see, therefore, wherefore, nevertheless
- Similes—As, like
- Superlatives—Great worth, good, very good, great, wonderful
- Absolutes—Always, never, all, none, nothing, every, no
- Connecting words—Because, but
- Repeated words—i.e. How many times are the words "look" or "behold" used in 1 Nephi 11 through 14? "Repetition brings conviction" (Elder Rolf Kerr, The heart and a willing mind, CES Broadcast, 7 Aug. 2007).

Listen to the short audio presentation on this study skill: [Flag Phrases](#)

You are encouraged to do 7 different study skills over the course of the semester. There are 9 to choose from.



Symbolism

Directions

Below are directions and a video to help you better understand this study skill. Please use a different study skill every week so that you can learn and understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ most effectively.

Symbolism

Purpose:

Symbols are helpful in understanding scripture. They teach with power, they are used to teach abstract ideas, they span time, culture and language, and they provide levels of understanding. Symbols more often suggest rather than represent.

How:

- Look for scriptural interpretation
- Look for the teachings of modern prophets
- Consider the context of the symbol
- Use the study aids in the scriptures
- Let the nature of the object used as a symbol contribute to an understanding of its spiritual meaning.
- Look for Christ in scriptural symbols

Listen to the short audio presentation on this study skill: [Symbolism](#)

You are encouraged to do 7 different study skills over the course of the semester. There are 9 to choose from.



Visualize

Directions

Below are directions and a video to help you better understand this study skill. Please use a different study skill every week so that you can learn and understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ most effectively.

Visualize

Purpose:

Brings the scriptures to life

How:

- Look for the setting (i.e. time, place, who is present)
- Look for the details in the scriptural text
- Ask questions to help fill in your mental picture

Listen to the short audio presentation on this study skill: [Visualize](#)

You are encouraged to do 7 different study skills over the course of the semester. There are 9 to choose from.



Study Skill - Cause and Effect

Directions

Below are directions and a video to help you better understand this study skill. Please use a different study skill every week so that you can learn and understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ most effectively.

Cause and Effect

Purpose:

Looking for cause and effect in scriptures can be useful in determining scriptural promises, blessings, and punishments. If you want the effect of the scripture, make sure you are doing the cause to receive it.

How:

Look for scriptural markers:

- If/then relationships
- Inasmuch as...
- Because
- "If" without the "Then"
- No markers at all (sometimes a series of cause & effects i.e. Helaman 15:7-8)

Listen to the short audio presentation on this study skill: [Cause and Effect](#)

You are encouraged to do 7 different study skills over the course of the semester. There are 9 to choose from.