

Home Groups

A scenic view of a coastal town, likely San Francisco, featuring a large, ornate building with a red roof and many sailboats in the water. The sky is blue with scattered clouds. The foreground shows a rocky beach and the water's surface.

Canyon Vineyard

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Session #1

Canyon Vineyard Home Groups

Introduction:

- small group impact on journey with Christ.



- The more that groups synchronize to serve the whole body, the more efficient they become in supplying the body with what is needed.

- not just an activity that connects people to create community.



- Small group gatherings are the basic unit of this organism, the church.

- “But speaking the truth in love, let us grow up in all things into Him who is the Head—Christ. From Him the whole body [the church, in all its various parts], joined and knitted firmly together by what every joint supplies, when each part is working properly, causes the body to grow and mature, building itself up in love.”

Home Groups

Ephesians 4:15-16 AMP

vs. Sunday Meetings

- “Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brothers the priests and built the Sheep Gate...Next to Eliashib the men of Jericho built, and next to them Zaccur the son of Imri built.”

†Nehemiah 3:1,2

The Synergy Between the Personal and the Group efforts

Small group engagement is the space where each member of the body participates in building the self and the body. It is the equivalent of working in building the wall and guarding the city.

Synergy Effects on the Inner Person & the Group

Solidarity

Unity

Identity

“Make every effort to keep the oneness of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when called—one God and Father of us all who is over all and through all and in all.”

Ephesians 4:6 AMP

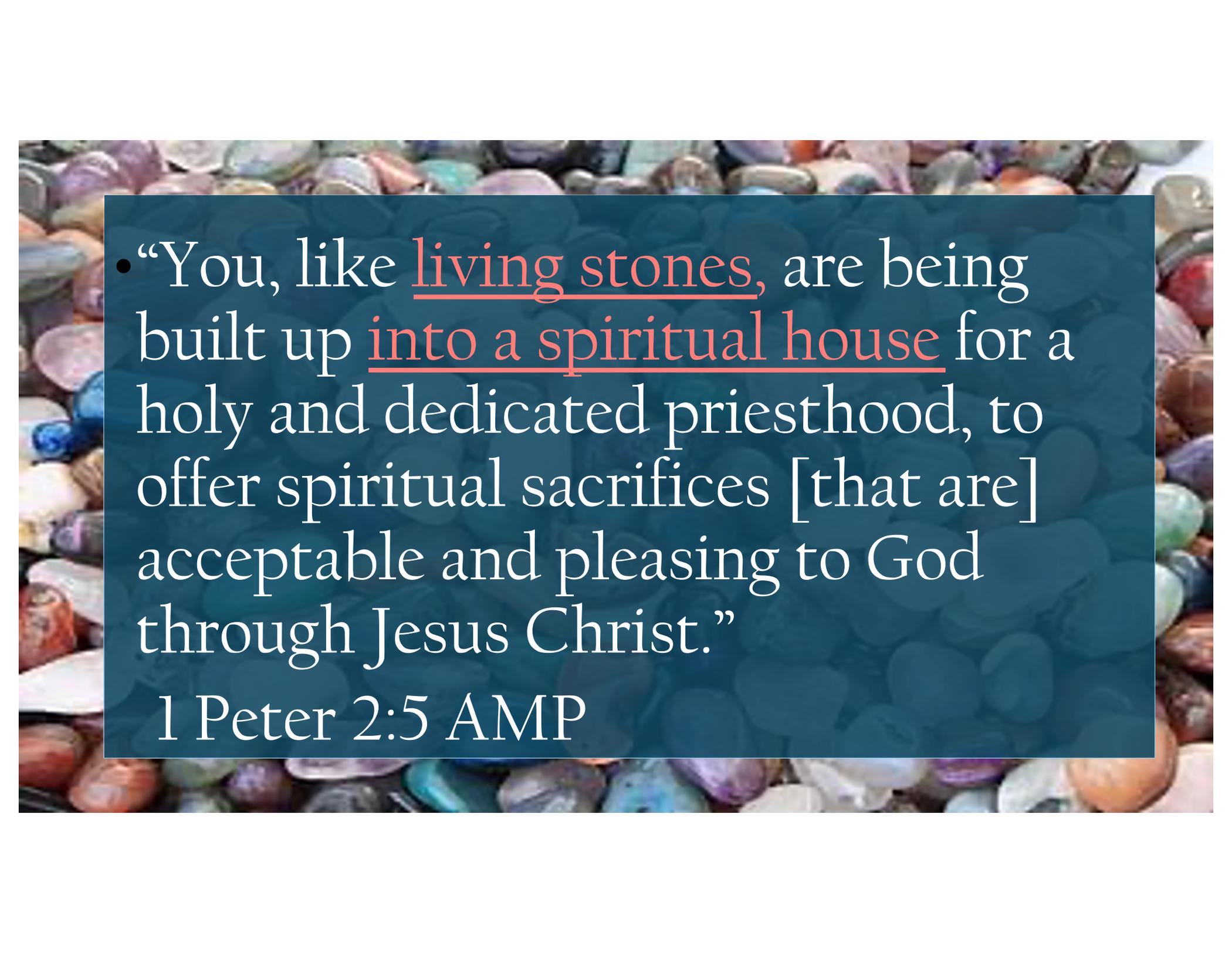
Building His House

• “For your husband is your Maker, The LORD of hosts is His name; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel, Who is called the God of the whole earth...” “O you afflicted, storm-tossed, and not comforted, Listen carefully, I will set your [precious] stones in mortar, And lay your foundations with sapphires. “And I will make your battlements of rubies, And your gates of beryl stones, And all your walls of precious stones.” And all your sons will be disciples, And great will be the well-being of your sons.”

• Isaiah 54:5, 11-13 AMP

“He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel. ”

Psalms 103: 7 AMP

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- “You, like living stones, are being built up into a spiritual house for a holy and dedicated priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices [that are] acceptable and pleasing to God through Jesus Christ.”

1 Peter 2:5 AMP

“My beloved speaks and says to me,

‘Arise, my love, my fair one, And come away. “For behold, the winter is past, The rain is over and gone.” The flowers appear on the earth once again; The time for singing has come, And the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

“O my dove, [here] in the clefts in the rock, In the sheltered and secret place of the steep pathway, Let me see your face, Let me hear your voice; For your voice is sweet, And your face is lovely.”

Song of Solomon 2:10 – 14 AMP



Processing Prayer

A scenic view of a coastline. On the left, a rocky shore features a lighthouse. The sea is calm with a few boats and buoys. In the distance, a small island and a larger landmass are visible under a blue sky with scattered clouds.

Session #2

Canyon Vineyard
Home Groups

Sundays & Home Groups: the Wall, and its Parts

1- Church vision is centered around bringing God's presence and kingdom into the community.

2- God doesn't see us in isolation of the needs of people around us.

3- "Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and **he will prepare and clear the way before Me.** And the Lord, whom you seek, **will suddenly come to His temple.** Malachi 3:1 AMP

“Enlarge the site of your tent [to make room for more children]; Stretch out the curtains of your dwellings, do not spare them; Lengthen your tent ropes And make your pegs (stakes) firm [in the ground]. “For you will spread out to the right and to the left; And your descendants will take possession of nations And will inhabit deserted cities. ”

- **Isaiah 54: 2-3 AMP**

Home Groups

Preparing the Way

- 1- Home groups are the basic unit of this body.
- 2- If we want to produce sustainable growth and expansion in this body, it must happen organically in the basic cell of this body.
- 3- Our home groups should offer non-believers, seekers, and new believers an appropriate culture, habits and practices that they can relate to and engage in.



Home Group Basics:

In our initial stage home groups should be:

1- Simple

**Simple doesn't mean superficial
Simple practice doesn't need experts**

2- Reproducible

By modeling a simple process, we empower and equip others to lead a group, reproduce what they witnessed.

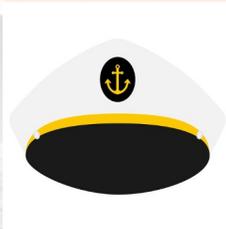
Doing the Work, Enlarging, Stretching, Lengthening, and Strengthening requires shift in strategy.

- 1- The group leader's role shifts from *leading* to *facilitating*.
- 2- Biblical Study focus shifts :
 - from thematic, systematic, or abstract teaching to an interactive reflection on concrete/experiential Biblical text .

First Shift: Roles: Captain or Sail?

Captain

1-Highest authority on the ship: decides on destination, navigation, crew



2- Depends on his skills in **manipulating** the wind and other variables to lead the ship.

Sail

1-Lifts up, and search for the wind direction.

2-Depends on and **surrenders** to the wind.



Captain/Leader Vs. Sail/Facilitator

Static

1-I decide direction

2-I need to tell you

(Tell Approach)

3-I'm concerned with what info
I should provide.

Dynamic

1-I search for direction.

2-I need to hear you

(Pull Approach)

3-I'm concerned with how
I can help others **process**
directions

*Depends on Holy Spirit, Scripture, basic
human skills.*

“He must increase, but I must decrease.”
John 3: 30 AMP

Led by the Spirit encompasses more than just receiving signals, voices, impressions, or visions.

Means synergizing, and balancing, all your potential: the spiritual, mental, emotional, and relational.



Spirit-Led



Each part of your being checks on the others to ensure your entire response is under the control and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 10:25-29

Second Shift:

What's your mode: Concrete or Abstract?

Our aim is to...

- employ **everyday language** that uses real-world examples, experiences, and events to communicate ideas and concepts.
- include the entire person, not only his reasoning; **it's relational**.
- focus on processing the information, rather than telling it.

Therefore, we express ourselves in a circular way, repetitive.

In contrast to linear systematic thinking as in classroom.

Did God notice that we relate more to stories rather than ideas?

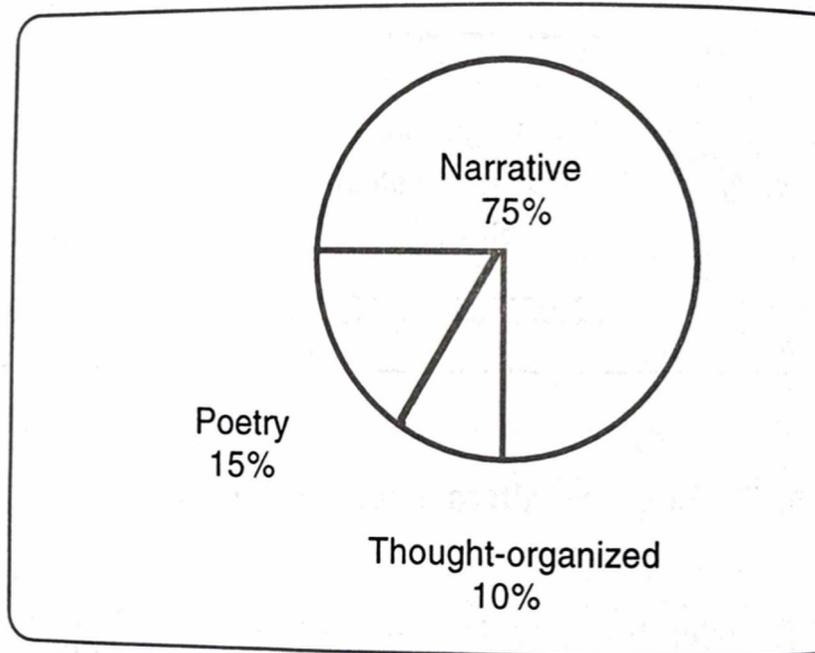


Figure 18. Three major literary genres of the Bible

Options for study?

- **The life of men and women in the Bible.**
- **Psalms, in connection to the writer's life circumstances.**
- **Panoramic View of the Biblical Narrative.**
- **Certain period of God's people's Journey with the Lord.**

Serving Food at God's Table as a Facilitator

Simplicity is a major key for including others

...“Truly, I say to you, unless you **turn** and become like **children**, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 18:3 ESV

When you serve at God's table,
don't mix your bones with God's meat.

1- Facilitators choose the biblical passage (10-13 verses)

2- Ask two people to read the passage out loud while others listen and follow in their Bibles/paper.

-Allow 2 minutes of silence after each reading for personal reflection.

A Bible Reflection Model

3- In the first reading encourage group members to focus on answering questions related to what the passage is saying (questions A,B,C)

In the second reading ask people to answer questions relating to their personal reaction to the passage/story. (Questions D,E,F)

4- Ask someone to retell the passage in his own words and then ask others to add to what he said

SUGGESTED PRACTICE:

- 1- Choose the passage, print it out, and provide pens to take notes. (Everyone might have a folder to keep each week's reading with its notes.)
- 2- The reading and listening practice allow people to think and reflect on what God wants to say to them.
- 3- Group members take a deeper step towards discovering the contents of the text and the personal message they receive from the H.S.
- 4- Questions are always the same. This makes reproducing the process easier.
- 5- Retelling the passage helps them think of it and prepares them to share it with someone else. Although these processes may seem repetitive, they are indeed helpful.

Discovery Questions

A- Did anything in this passage capture your attention?

B- What does this passage tell us about God?

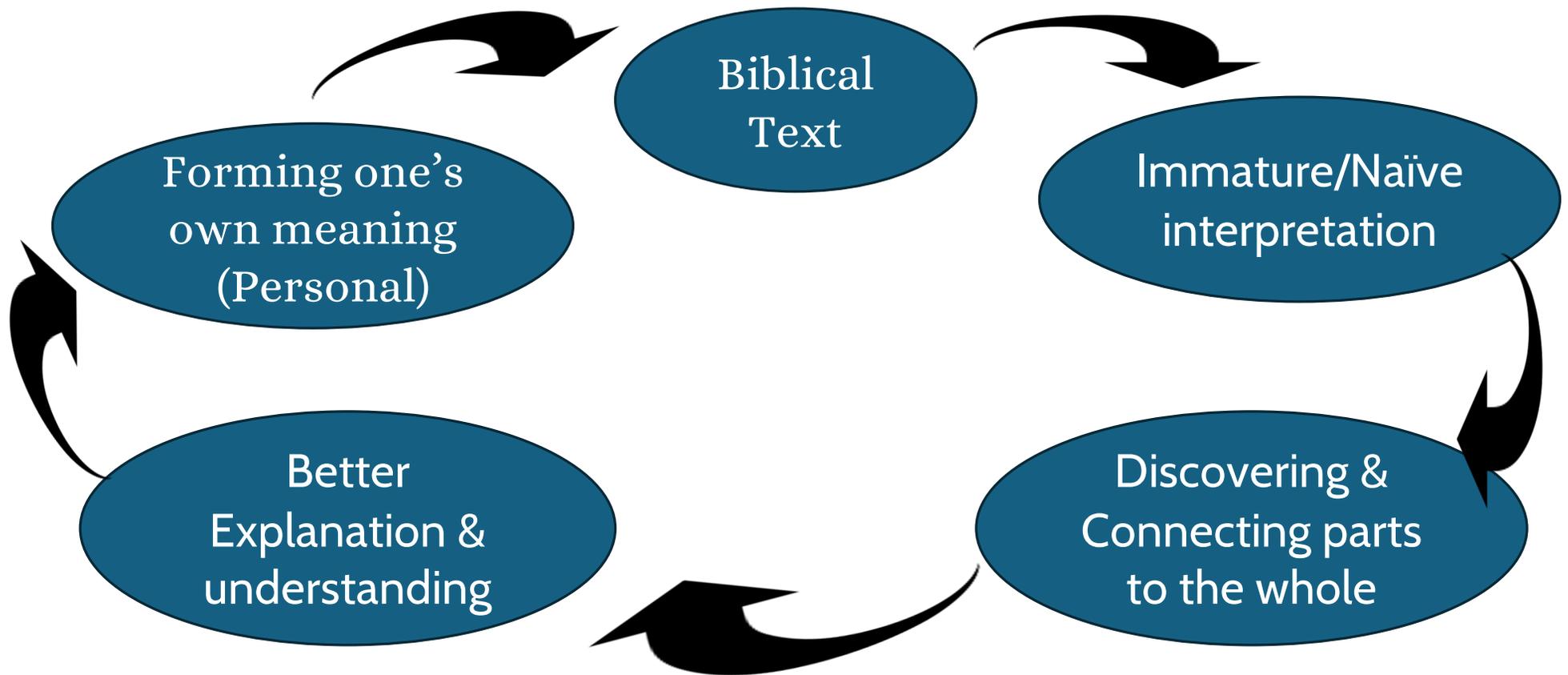
C- What does this passage tell us about man?

D- What did you like about this passage?

E- Did anything bother you? Why?

F- What does this passage tell us about living to please God?
How can I obey?

Dynamics of Processing a Passage



Pillars of a Home Group

Fellowship

**Biblical
Reflection**

Accountability

Prayer

Mission

Equipping