

## Goals:

### A. What was the author's message for his original readers? [*~Darrell Dike*]

1. The author intended to say something.
2. He accomplished that purpose.
3. His message is found within the Biblical book.
  - Texts from other books only illustrate or confirm the message.

### B. How does that message impact us now?

## Steps:

### A. Examine the text. What does it say?

1. Who? What? When? Where? Why? How? How Many?

### B. Appreciate at the artistry. What tools does the artist use?

1. Commands ~ imperatives
2. Action Words ~ verbs (primary), participles (modifying), infinitives (modifying)
3. Repeated Words ~ within a paragraph
4. Linking Words ~ between paragraphs
5. Transition words ~ but, therefore, then...
6. Imagery ~ vivid images, figures of speech...
7. Comparisons ~ similar statements
8. Contrasts ~ opposite statements
9. Lists ~ multiple similar words/statements
10. Dialogue ~ Who is speaking? What is said?

### C. Picture the message. How does the author present his argument?

1. Paragraphs ~ subsections of the passage
2. Phrase Diagrams ~ main phrases on left margin; modifying phrases indented
3. Logical Flow ~ represent the logic pictorially

### D. Explore the genre. How does the literature type help us understand?

1. OT Narrative ~ Narrative (Regular & Historical), Law
2. OT Poetry ~ Psalms (Lament & Praise), Wisdom (Proverbial & Other)
3. OT Mixed ~ Prophecy (of salvation & of judgement), Apocalyptic
4. NT Gospel ~ Good news about Jesus
5. NT Letter ~ Author, recipient, situation, message
6. Other: ~ Genealogies, royal history, church history, etc.

### E. Consider the context. How does this paragraph fit?

1. What comes before and after this paragraph?
2. How does this paragraph support the author's overall message?
3. How does the overall message help us understand this paragraph?

### F. Summarize the theme. What did the author say to his original readers? [*~Tom Golding*]

1. What question is asked by the text? [*Psalm 91: Can I trust God?*]
2. What answer is given by the text? [*Psalm 91: God is our refuge.*]
3. What is the theme (Question + Answer)? [*Psalm 91: I will trust God because he is our refuge.*]