

**Xenos Christian Fellowship  
Christian Ministry Light Unit 2  
Using Your Bible  
Week 4 – Epistles Inductive Study, Part 2  
& Introduction to Inspiration**

**Titus 1:10-16**

1. Structure – understand the thought development.
  - a. Main point – state the main point of the paragraph.
  
  - b. Supporting points – describe how the author supports the main point. WHY it's true? WHY should we do what it says? HOW should we respond? List each supporting point as a phrase and supply the verse number where it is found.
  
  - c. Literary/theological context – what role does this paragraph play in relationship to the overall argument of the book or of this section of the book?
  
2. Theology – understand the content of the paragraph.
  - a. Identify and define unfamiliar, historically significant, and key words; note use of Old Testament passages.
  
  - b. Meaning – state theological meaning of the main and supporting points, including how the theology of supporting points relates to the main point.

c. Parallel passages – identify other passages that might bear on your interpretation.

3. Application – understand what to do based on the meaning of the paragraph.

a. Significance to them – how is the argument of the paragraph intended to affect the original audience in terms of actions, attitudes, convictions?

b. Significance to us – how is the argument of this passage relevant to me/my group?

### **Titus 2:1-15**

1. Structure – understand the thought development.

a. Main point – state the main point of the paragraph.

b. Supporting points – describe how the author supports the main point. WHY it's true? WHY should we do what it says? HOW should we respond? List each supporting point as a phrase and supply the verse number where it is found.

c. Literary/theological context – what role does this paragraph play in relationship to the overall argument of the book or of this section of the book?

2. Theology – understand the content of the paragraph.

a. Identify and define unfamiliar, historically significant, and key words; note use of Old Testament passages.

b. Meaning – state theological meaning of the main and supporting points, including how the theology of supporting points relates to the main point.

c. Parallel passages – identify other passages that might bear on your interpretation.

3. Application – understand what to do based on the meaning of the paragraph.

a. Significance to them – how is the argument of the paragraph intended to affect the original audience in terms of actions, attitudes, convictions?

b. Significance to us – how is the argument of this passage relevant to me/my group?

### **Titus 3:1-11**

1. Structure – understand the thought development.

a. Main point – state the main point of the paragraph.

b. Supporting points – describe how the author supports the main point. WHY it's true? WHY should we do what it says? HOW should we respond? List each supporting point as a phrase and supply the verse number where it is found.

c. Literary/theological context – what role does this paragraph play in relationship to the overall argument of the book or of this section of the book?

2. Theology – understand the content of the paragraph.

a. Identify and define unfamiliar, historically significant, and key words; note use of Old Testament passages.

b. Meaning – state theological meaning of the main and supporting points, including how the theology of supporting points relates to the main point.

Main point theology:

Supporting point theology:

c. Parallel passages – identify other passages that might bear on your interpretation.

3. Application – understand what to do based on the meaning of the paragraph.

a. Significance to them – how is the argument of the paragraph intended to affect the original audience in terms of actions, attitudes, convictions?

b. Significance to us – how is the argument of this passage relevant to me/my group?

## How to do a Word Study

### “Translation” and “transliteration”

TRANSLATION involves converting words and phrases in one language into words and phrases with the same MEANING in another language.

- e.g. “adios” (in Spanish) = “goodbye” (in English)
- e.g. “e pluribus unum” (in Latin) = “out of many, one” (in English)

TRANSLITERATION involves converting the letters and sounds in one language into the letter and sounds in another language. The table below shows the transliteration of three Greek words and their translation.

<b>Greek word:</b>	α γ α π η	<b>Translation:</b> love
<b>Transliteration:</b>	<u>A</u> <u>G</u> <u>A</u> <u>P</u> <u>E</u>	
<b>Greek word:</b>	α ν θ ρ ο π ο ς	<b>Translation:</b> man
<b>Transliteration:</b>	<u>A</u> <u>N</u> <u>T</u> <u>H</u> <u>R</u> <u>O</u> <u>P</u> <u>O</u> <u>S</u>	
<b>Greek word:</b>	ο χ λ ο ς	<b>Translation:</b> multitude
<b>Transliteration:</b>	<u>O</u> <u>C</u> <u>H</u> <u>L</u> <u>O</u> <u>S</u>	

### Range of meaning

A single word in any language may have a range of possible meanings.

e.g. draw

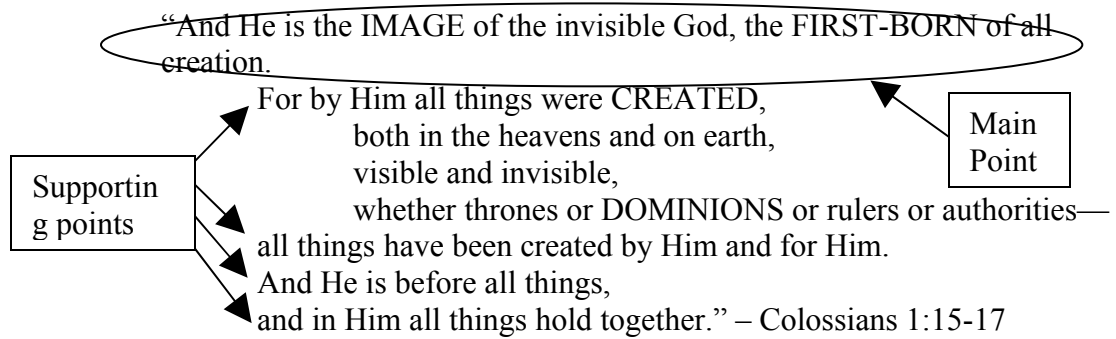
- ... draw a picture
- ... draw water from a well
- ... draw a conclusion
- ... draw a wagon

e.g. kosmos...

Suggested steps

1. Select a word to study.

Focus on words in the \_\_\_\_\_.



Focus on words that are \_\_\_\_\_.

Don’t get bogged down studying too many words!

Word	Importance	Reason
“created”	low	meaning is clear
“image”	high	part of the main point, meaning is unclear
“first-born”	high	part of the main point, meaning is unclear
“dominions”	low	unclear meaning, but not part of the main or supporting points

2. Identify the Greek or Hebrew word that your word is based on.

**(1 Timothy 4:9-10)** This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance (and for this we labor and STRIVE), that we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, and especially of those who believe.

Greek or Hebrew?

New Testament passages are translated from Greek.

Old Testament passages are usually translated from Hebrew.

Use a concordance that is written for the version of the Bible you are using.

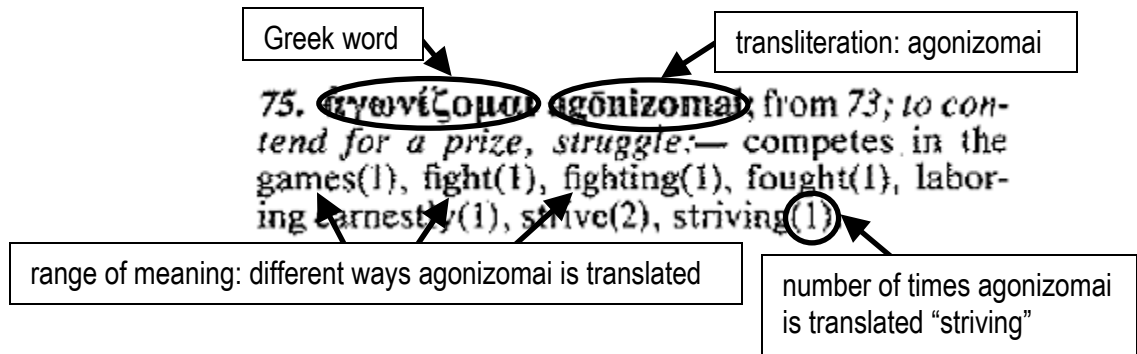
**Strive**

My spirit shall not **s** with man  
 Did he ever **s** with Israel, or did  
 He will not always **s** with us;  
 Those who keep the law **s** with them  
 “**S** to enter by the narrow door;  
 to **s** together with me in your  
 For it is for this we labor and **s**,

Gn 6:3  
 Jg 11:25  
 Ps 103:9  
 Pr 28:4  
 Lk 13:24  
 Ro 15:30  
 1 Tm 4:10

1777  
 7378  
 7378  
 1624  
 75  
 4865  
 75

Reference numbers correspond to Hebrew and Greek words in the back of the concordance. Italicized numbers for Greek words; normal font numbers for Hebrew.



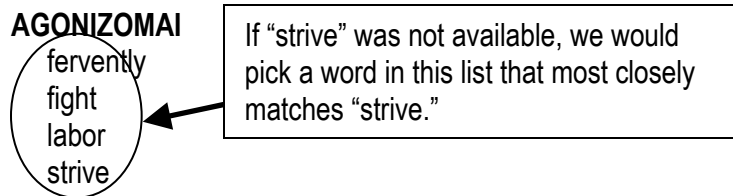
### 3. Narrow down the range of meaning.

a. First, look for clues in the immediate context as to how your word is being used in the passage.

b. Then study other passages where the SAME AUTHOR (if possible) uses the same Greek or Hebrew word you are studying.

Use *Vine's Expository Dictionary* – a dictionary that provides commentary on how most Greek and Hebrew words are used in the Bible.

Look up the transliteration of your word in the back of *Vine's*. Select the English translation of AGONIZOMAI that most closely matches "strive."



Look up the entry for "strive" in the main part of *Vine's*. Under the entry, look for AGONIZOMAI.

**STRIVE**

1. AGŌNIZOMAI (ἀγωνίζομαι), to contend (Eng., agonize), is rendered to strive in Luke 13 : 24 ; 1 Cor. 9 : 25 ; Col. 1 : 29 ; 4 : 12, R.V. (A.V., "labouring fervently"). In 1 Tim. 4 : 10, the best texts have this verb (R.V., "strive") for *oneidizomai*, to suffer reproach, A.V. ; see FIGHT, B, No. 1.

2. MACHOMAI (μάχομαι), to fight, to quarrel, dispute, is rendered

Passages written by Paul using AGONIZOMAI

**(1 Corinthians 9:25)** And everyone who **competes in the games** exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.

**(Colossians 1:28-29)** And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ. And for this purpose also I labor, **striving** according to His power, which mightily works within me.

**(Colossians 4:12)** Epaphras, who is one of your number, a bonds slave of Jesus Christ, sends you his greetings, always **laboring earnestly** for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God.

4. Based on your research, define the word as it is used in the verse you are studying.

### **Introduction to the Inspiration of Scripture**

**(1 Peter 3:15)** but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence...

### **Revelation & Speculation**

(Special) Revelation –

Speculation –

Results of speculation:

Christian application:

## Verbal Plenary Inspiration

Definition of **Verbal** (the words are inspired) **Plenary** (all of the Bible is inspired) **Inspiration** (God breathed):

*God so moved the human authors of scripture that the resulting product was the Word of God written, totally without error in all that it affirms in the original autographs, in every area including theology, history, geography and science.*

Why must the definition include accuracy in things like history, geography and science?  
Why not just theology?

*Because if it can't be trusted in the areas that we can test, why should it be trusted in the areas we can't test?*

"Inspiration" does NOT mean:

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**(2 Tim. 3:16\*)** All Scripture is *inspired* by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

"inspiration" = theopneustos: literally "God-breathed"

**(2 Pet. 1:20,21\*)** But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, 21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

**Two important qualifications of verbal plenary inspiration:**

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*Figures of speech*

*Precision*

*Narration does not equal affirmation*

*Literary genres*

*Selective history does not equal errant history*

*Topical arrangement*

*Irregularities of grammar and spelling*

**Why does it matter that we have a high view of scripture?**

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### **Memory Verses & Assignment**

2 Timothy 3:16,17\* - All scripture is "God-breathed."

2 Peter 1:20,21\* - All scripture has its origin in God rather than in humans.

### **Assignment**

Read chapters 1-5 of *Does Inerrancy Matter* (see handout). Write a one-paragraph summary of each chapter.

Read chapter 4 of *The Case for Christ* (see handout). Write a one-paragraph summary of the chapter.