

- **2 Pt 3:16** - may read, but "distort"!
- Enemies do this, not friends - **Ps 56:5**

I. Importance of CONTEXT

Mt. 27:5; Lk 10:37b; Jn. 13:27b

II. Illustration: **Psa 117**

("Big Idea" Handout)

A. First, READ!

B. Mark, "Praise the Lord" "Laud him" (KJV, "praise Him") (Make copies of text if not like to mark in Bible.)

1. Topic - Praise the Lord!
2. TO whom? "all nations"... "all peoples" - Gentiles!
See **Rom 15:11** - who "TO" important!

C. Big Idea

What is the writer talking about?

Begin with one of six words:

I had six faithful friends,

They taught me all I knew

Their names were, **How?** and **What?** and **Why?**

And **When?** and **Where?** and **Who?**

Why ALL MEN should praise the Lord.

NOTE: Not HOW to praise the Lord, nor WHEN to praise the Lord, nor WHERE to praise the Lord, but WHO and WHY.

What did he say about that?

Because of His faithful lovingkindness to Israel.

Big Idea (skeleton of context): All men should praise the Lord because of His faithful lovingkindness to Israel.

Implies God's blessings to Israel not just for Israel - thus Paul's use of it in **Rom 15:11**.

III. Illustration: **Jn 15:26-16:15**

A. Read

Some refer to **16:13**, but never READ context!

Give example of poor reading - then read properly (first lesson).

B. Marking

1. Pronouns
Und. in same color what said about
2. "When he comes"
Und. in same color what said about

C. Questions

1. Who speaking TO?
2. What speaking ABOUT?

D. "Big Idea"

Suggestion:

1. What is the writer talking about?
What will happen when the Helper comes to you?
2. What is he saying about what he is talking about?
He will testify of Me and glorify Me through you by guiding you into all the truth about Me.

Big Idea (skeleton of context): When the Holy Spirit came to the apostles He testified to and glorified Christ by guiding the apostles into all the truth about Christ.

Everything in the text relates to this Main Idea or "skeleton"

- persecution, **16:1-3**
- sorrow/advantage of Him going away, **16:5-7**
- convict world of s/r/j, **16:8-11**

IV. How do this?

- READ and mark...
Then...
- READ and mark...
After that...
- READ and mark...

Difficult? Work?

- Is it worth it?
- ANYTHING new may be difficult. The more we do it, the more proficient we become. And in this case, the more INDEPENDENT and CONFIDENT we become as students of God's Word.
- Remember (*believe!*) - you CAN understand! **Eph 3:4**

CONC

Context is an UMPIRE of interpretation! (Illus. with sports)

Learn to ascertain it so that

- Not dependant on others - **Acts 17:11**
 - Avoid being deceived - **2 Pt. 3:16**
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