

# TEACHER TRAINING

INTRODUCTION TO OT POETRY

# The Inductive Bible Study Method

“Induction is discovery, and we believe that approaching the Bible with an attitude of seeking to discover the meaning of the text is most compatible with the Bible as intentional communication from God to us. Thus an attitude of discovery, coupled with a process for implementing the discovery of meaning, drives us toward the inductive method for Bible study.”

–*Inductive Bible Study* pg. 33–34



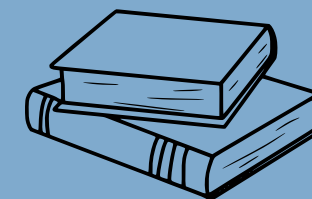
## Observation

Establish a basic knowledge of what the text is saying



## Interpretation

Understand the meaning of the text at its exegetical level



## Consultation

Review interpretation with outside resources



## Application

Evaluate how an interpreted text is best appropriated

# Old Testament Poetry

## Interpreting Poetry

Terseness

— poetry uses a minimum number of words

Structure

— structured around poetic lines of verse rather than around sentences and paragraphs

Figurative Imagery

— Poets are conveying real thoughts, events, and emotions to us—that is, literal truth, but they express this truth figuratively.

Paul & NT Letters	Old Testament Poets
Appeals to logic	Appeals to emotions
Rational arguments are central	Images are central
Syntax/grammar are critical to analyze	Figures of speech are critical to analyze





# Introduction to the Psalms

## 1. Title

- a. psalmos (Greek) – songs
- b. Tehillim (Hebrew) – praises

## 2. Authorship

- a. David [75 Psalms]
- b. The Sons of Korah [11 Psalms]
- c. Asaph [12 Psalms]
- d. Solomon [2 Psalms]
- e. Moses [1 Psalm]
- f. Unknown [49 Psalms]

## 3. Themes

- a. Cover a wide range of experiences & emotions
- b. Inspired models
- c. Examples of meditation
- d. Spoken **to** God





# Introduction to the Psalms

## 4. Structure

- a. Book One – Psalms 1–41
- b. Book Two – Psalms 42–72
- c. Book Three – Psalms 73–89
- d. Book Four – Psalms 90–106
- e. Book Five – Psalms 107–150

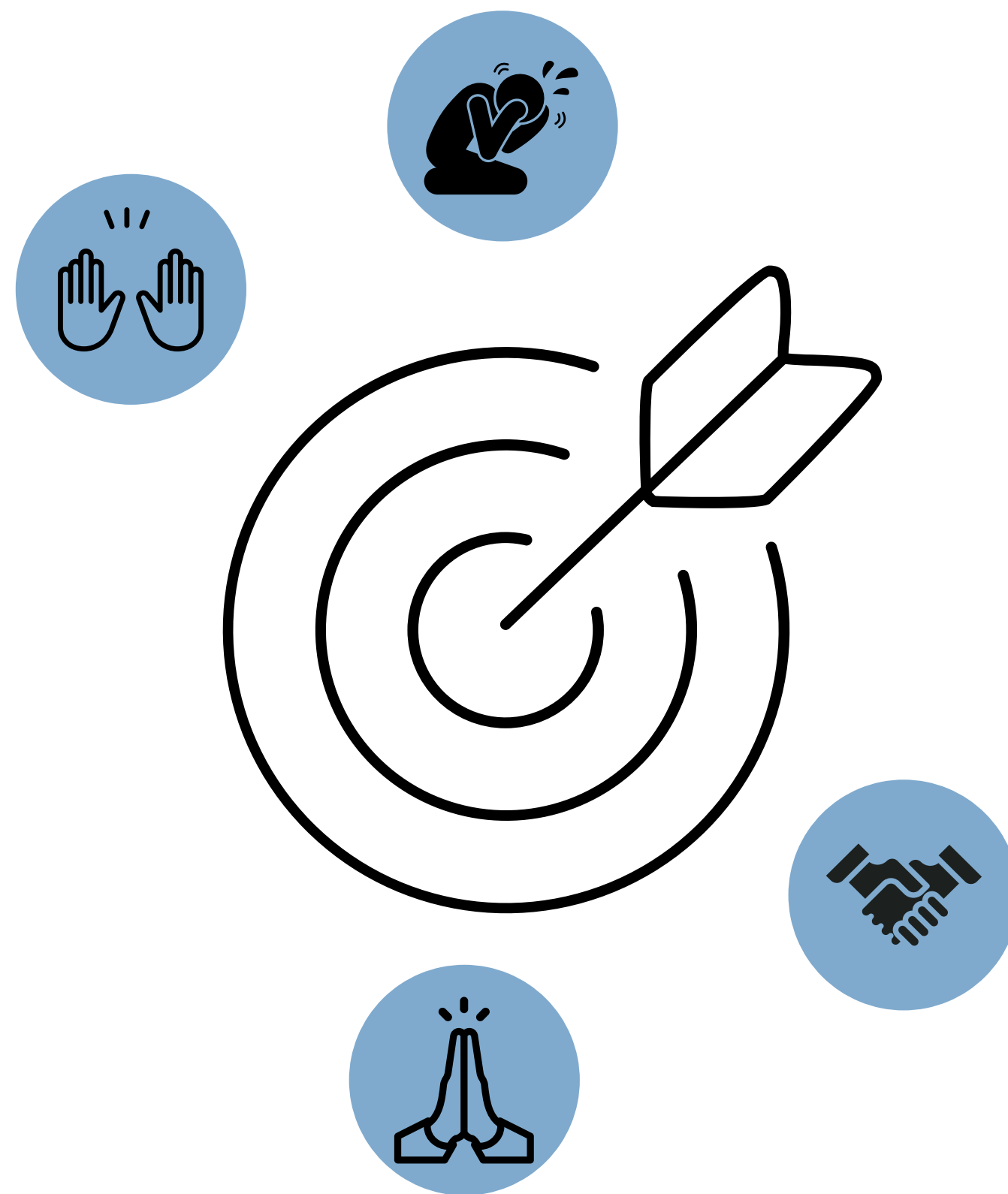
## 5. Types of Psalms

- a. Laments
- b. Thanksgiving Psalms
- c. Hymns of Praise & Adoration
- d. Salvation–History Psalms
- e. Royal Psalms/ Enthronement Psalms
- f. Wisdom Psalms
- e. Songs of Trust

# The Goal this Summer

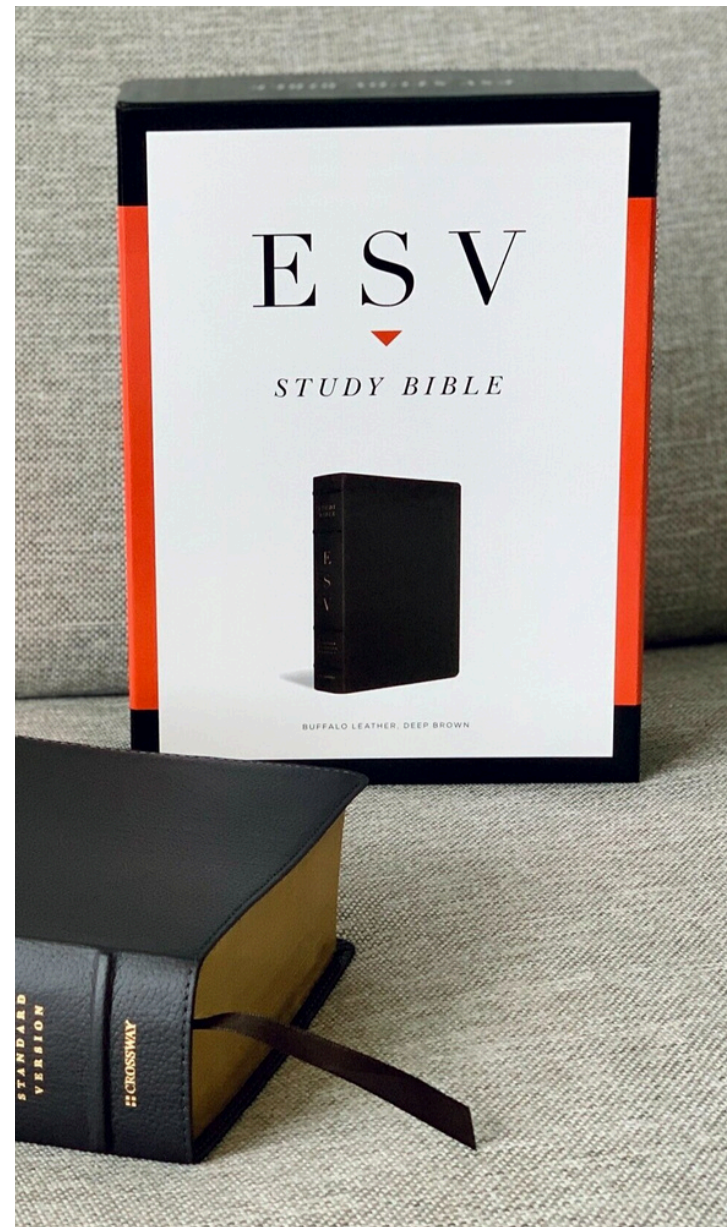
- Study 4 Psalms, each representing a different category

1. **Psalm 19:** A Song of Praise & Adoration
2. **Psalm 42–43:** A Song of Lament & Grief
3. **Psalm 63:** A Song of Trust
4. **Psalm 34:** A Song of Thanksgiving

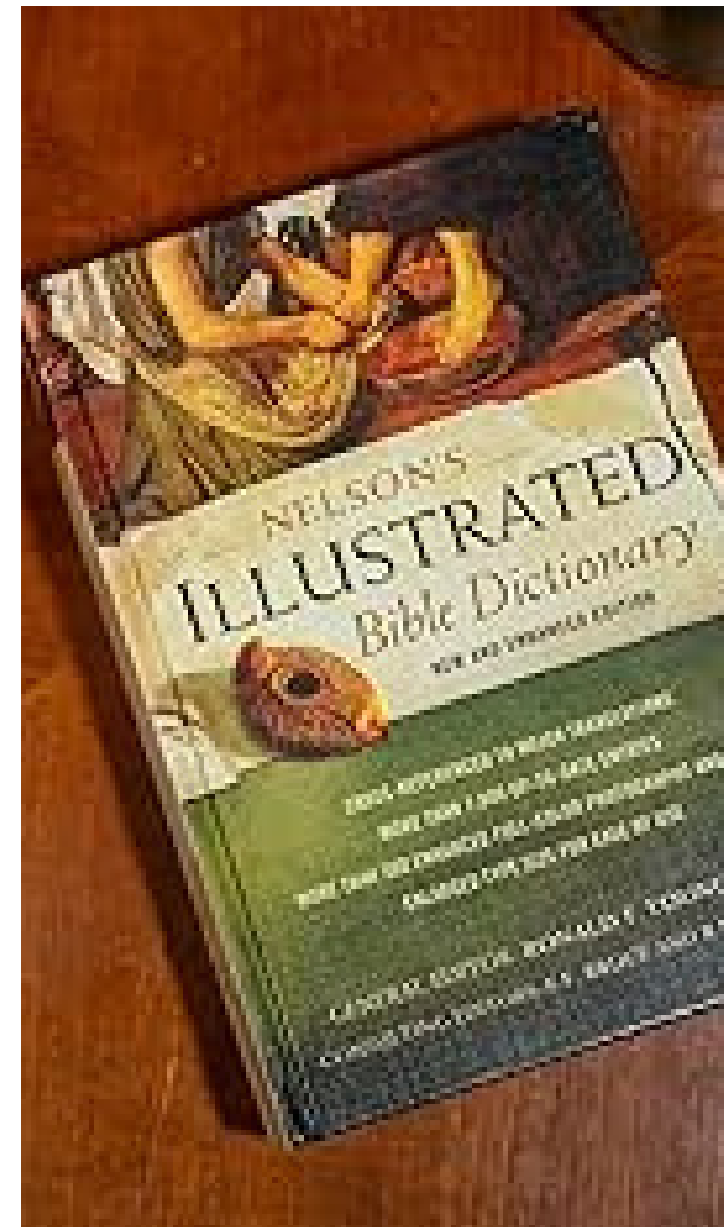




# References



**ESV Study Bible**



**Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary (Ronald Youngblood)**



# Old Testament Poetry/ Psalms

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# Old Testament Poetry/ Psalms

## Principles of Interpreting Poetry

### Structure

I. **Parallelism** – Two lines of OT poetry are grouped together to express one thought.

- a. Synonymous
- b. Synthetic/Developmental
- c. Illustrative
- d. Contrastive or Antithetical
- e. Formal



# Old Testament Poetry/ Psalms

## Principles of Interpreting Poetry

### Figurative Imagery

#### **I. Figures of Speech Involving Analogy**

- a. Simile
- b. Metaphor
- c. Indirect analogy
- d. Hyperbole
- e. Personification/anthropomorphism/zoomorphism

# Old Testament Poetry/ Psalms

## Principles of Interpreting Poetry

Figurative Imagery

### **II. Figures of Speech Involving Substitution**

- a. Effect & Causes (Metonymy)
- b. Representation (Synecdoche)
- c. Apostrophe
- d. Irony
- e. Word Plays



# Before Next Class...

## Required Reading:

- Psalms 42–43
- Vlach, chapter 2

## Recommended Reading:

- *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth (4<sup>th</sup> Edition)*, by Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart, **chapter 11**
- *Inductive Bible Study*, Richard Fuhr and Andreas Kostenberger, **pp. 143–151; 164–168**