Observations - what does it say?

- Look closely at the verse you are studying. Answer some or all of these questions: Who are the people involved? What happened? What ideas are expressed? What resulted? Where does this take place? What is the setting? When did it take place? What was the historical period? Why? What is the purpose? What is the stated reason? How are things accomplished? How well? How quickly? By what method? Are there any key words in the passage? What images (pictures) are in the passage?
Interpretation - what does it mean?

• Write out questions about what you don’t understand in the passage.
• What do you think this passage meant to the original audience that received it?
• In light of its meaning to its original audience what does it mean to you?

(Consider also these questions Can you find any relevant information about culture, history or geography that relate to your questions? Are there any words you need to better understand? What is the single primary meaning of this passage?)
Correlation - what do other Scriptures say?

- Are there any cross-references that are related or would help with understanding this passage? What light does the context shed on my understanding of the passage?

Illustration - how can I pass this on?

- Draw a picture or diagram to illustrate what you have discovered from this passage.
Application- what does it mean to me?

• The following questions may help you apply this passage to your life.
  1. Is there a SIN for me to avoid?
  2. Is there a PROMISE for me to claim?
  3. Is there an EXAMPLE for me to follow? or not follow?
  4. Is there a COMMAND for me to obey?
  5. What KNOWLEDGE have I gained? Is there any other KNOWLEDGE I should pursue?

• Write out your application in this way:

  PRINCIPLE- What does this passage teach me?

  PROBLEM- Where does this passage reprove me?

  PLAN- What is this passage encouraging me to do to correct this problem in my life?

  PROGRESS- How will I make sure that this passage has trained me in right living?