

▶ ORDER

- Is the author giving strategic importance to something by putting it in a certain order?

Matthew 10:2-4	Mark 3:13-19	Luke 6:12-16	Acts 1:12-14
<b>Simon Peter</b> Andrew James John	<b>Simon Peter</b> James John Andrew	<b>Simon Peter</b> Andrew James John	<b>Peter</b> John James Andrew
<b>Philip</b> Bartholomew Thomas Matthew	<b>Philip</b> Bartholomew Matthew Thomas	<b>Philip</b> Bartholomew Matthew Thomas	<b>Philip</b> Thomas Bartholomew Matthew
<b>James/Alphaeus</b> Thaddeus Simon the Zealot Judas Iscariot	<b>James/Alphaeus</b> Thaddeus Simon the Zealot Judas Iscariot	<b>James</b> Simon the Zealot Judas/James Judas Iscariot	<b>James/Alphaeus</b> Simon the Zealot Judas/James (Matthias)

▶ EXAGGERATION

- Does the author exaggerate something for intentional **effect** or emphasis?

*“My soul is consumed with longing for your laws at all times.”  
(Psalm 119:20, NIV)*

*“I robbed other churches by receiving support from them so as to serve you.”  
(2 Corinthians 11:8, NIV)*

*“You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.”  
(Matthew 23:24, NIV)*

■ **Look for what the Word repeats.**

- ▶ Does the author intentionally repeat anything in the text?
- ▶ Terms, phrases, and clauses
  - Psalm 136 – His love endures forever!
  - Matthew 5:34-6:34 – God is our Father!

*“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows. If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer.*

*And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.”*  
(2 Corinthians 1:3-7, NIV)

*“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.”*  
(1 John 2:15-17, NIV)

- ▶ Characters
  - Barnabas in Acts 4:36; 9:27; 11:22; 15:36-39.
- ▶ Patterns
  - Pharaoh hardens his heart (Exodus 7:13, 14, 22; 8:11, 15, 28; 9:7, 34, 35; 13:5).
  - God hardens Pharaoh’s heart (Exodus 4:21; 7:3; 9:12; 10:1, 20, 27; 11:10; 14:4, 8, 17).
- ▶ New Testament use of Old Testament passages
  - Matthew 5:21-47 –“You have heard that it was said...”

■ Look for what the Word **connects**.

- ▶ Does the author establish certain relationships between certain items, ideas, or individuals?
- ▶ Conjunctions
  - Look for and, for, but, therefore, since, or because...

*“Therefore,, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.”*  
(Romans 12:1, NIV)

*“Therefore,, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.”*  
(Hebrews 12:1, NIV)

*“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God,”*  
(2 Timothy 1:7-8, NIV)

- ▶ Prepositions
  - Look for by, with, from, in, on, upon, through, or to...

*“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. Pe life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”*  
(Galatians 2:20, NIV)

*“Therefore,, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.”*  
(Romans 5:1-2, NIV)

▶ **General and Specific**

- Look for times when an author introduces a general idea and then provides an explanation through specific supporting ideas (or vice versa).
- From general to specific: Galatians 5:16-23.

*“So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, flts of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”*  
(Galatians 5:16-23, NIV)

- From specific to general: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13.

▶ **Question and Answer**

- Look for questions that are answered and also rhetorical questions in which the answer is implied.

*“Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge?  
Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me.”*  
( Job 38:2-3, NIV)

*“A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If I am a father, where is the honor due me? If I am a master, where is the respect due me?” says the Lord Almighty.  
“It is you, O priests, who show contempt for my name.  
But you ask, ‘How have we shown contempt for your name?’”*  
(Malachi 1:6, NIV)

*“Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter.”(Matthew 26:40, NIV)*

*“What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision?”*  
(Romans 3:1, NIV)

*“What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered in this matter?”*  
(Romans 4:1, NIV)

*“What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?”*  
(Romans 6:1, NIV)

*“Do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to men who know the law—that the law has authority over a man only as long as he lives?”*  
(Romans 7:1, NIV)

▶ Cause and **Effect**

- Look for particular causes stated by the author which result in a particular effect or multiple effects.

*“A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”*  
(Proverbs 15:1, NIV)

*“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*  
(Romans 6:23, NIV)

*“And Saul was there, giving approval to his death. On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.”*  
(Acts 8:1, NIV)

▶ Means

- When something happens in the text, look for the means that brought about that particular action or result.

*“How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word.”*  
(Psalm 119:9, NIV)

*“For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.”*  
(Romans 8:13-14, NIV)

▶ Conditions

- Look for specific clauses that demonstrate certain conditions which bring about a desired response.

- Look for if (the condition) and then (the consequence).

*“If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.”*  
(Deuteronomy 28:1, NIV)

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;  
the old has gone, the new has come!”*  
(2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV)

*“If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness,  
we lie and do not live by the truth.”*  
(1 John 1:6, NIV)

▶ Lists

- Look for any instances of two or more itemized things and observe how and why they are ordered in a certain way.

*“For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world.”*  
(1 John 2:16, NIV)

*“Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.  
But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.”*  
(Colossians 3:5-8, NIV)

▶ Major Shifts

- As you read larger units of text, look for critical places where the text seems to take a new turn.
- 2 Samuel 11-12.

*“Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, ‘Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.’”*  
(Acts 8:26, NIV)

*“Therefore, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.”*  
(Romans 3:20-21, NIV)

*“To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.”*

*(Ephesians 3:21-4:1, NIV)*

■ Look for what the Word **compares**.

- ▶ Does the author compare certain items, ideas, or individuals to others?
- ▶ Simile
  - Look for **expressed** comparisons of two things that are different.
  - Look for as and like.

*“As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God.”*

*(Psalm 42:1, NIV)*

*“Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,”*

*( John 3:14, NIV)*

*“Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation,”*

*(1 Peter 2:2, NIV)*

- ▶ Metaphor
  - Look for **implied** comparisons between two things that are different.
  - Comparison without using as or like.

*“When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go.*

*Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts.*

*Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.”*

*( James 3:3-6, NIV)*













