1. Presuppositions
   a) Luke 24:36-45 What hindered the disciples from seeing the true meaning of the passages in the Hebrew Scriptures referring to the Messiah?
   b) Our presuppositions can cloud our thinking. For example, if a person rejects the possibility of any supernatural invention, what portions of Scripture would be set aside as unreasonable?
   c) What are some other presuppositions that are common today when people read the Bible?
   d) What promises in the Bible give us hope that we can go beyond any faulty presuppositions and receive a clear word from God? John 16:13, Psalm 32:8, etc.

2. Translation as interpretation
   a) What languages were used in the original texts of the Bible?
   b) Since most of us do not read ancient Hebrew, Aramaic, or Koine Greek, how can we be sure we have a reliable translation of the text?
   c) Psalm 131:1-2 (different translations) Why is the translation different? How can we be certain which translation is correct?
   d) What Bible translations have you found helpful in your study of the Bible?

3. The Bible and Culture
   a) Acts 17:16-32 What is the cultural context here?

4. Our fallen and sinful nature
   a) John 12:42-43 What hindered many religious leaders during the earthly ministry of Jesus from accepting the truths He taught and lived?
   b) Psalm 32:8-9 What appeal does the LORD make through the Psalmist David?
   c) How is it possible for sinful humans to receive the Word of God with an open and receptive heart?

5. Why interpretation is important (hermeneutics)
   a) 2 Peter 3:15-16
   b) Nehemiah 8:1-3, 8
   c) John 1:41, 9:7
   d) Luke 24:27
   e) Who has helped you understand the Bible?
   f) Consider Revelation 12:7-12. What interpretation is needed to understand this passage?