

## Bible Study Terms

- 1. Greeting/Introduction:** The formal introduction to the letter. This usually includes the name of *the author* (and associates to the author), *the audience* and *a blessing*.
- 2. Body of letter:** The main content of the letter. The author's teaching and instruction is found here.
- 3. Salutation:** This generally comes at the close of the letter and is a closing or departing statement and blessing. (e.g. Colossians 4:18, “**18** I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.”)
- 4. Historical Context:** The contemporary situation and circumstance in which the letter was written.
- 5. Grammatical Context:** Understanding the meaning of words, sentences and paragraphs in relation to the whole of the letter or book.
- 6. Authorial Intent:** The desired meaning of the author. It answers the question, “What did Paul mean by what he wrote?” “What was Paul intending to communicate by what he wrote?”
- 7. Exegete (or Exegesis):** The process of “taking out” or “reading meaning out” or “revealing” the intended meaning of the author. NOTE: This is being *faithful* to the text!
- 8. Eisegete (or Eisegesis):** The process of “putting in”, “reading mean into”, or “adding to” what the author wrote. NOTE: This is being *unfaithful* to the text!