

# Critical Questioning Method of Engaging with Texts

1. Circle the Scripture passage assigned to your group:

- Luke 24:13–35 (the road to Emmaus)
- Luke 24:36–49 (the appearance to the disciples in Jerusalem)
- John 20:19–29 (the doubt of Thomas)
- John 21:1–14 (the breakfast on the beach)

*Explanation of Level One:* Level one encompasses questions that are basic matters of recall. The answers can be clearly and unambiguously found within the text itself. These questions often begin with “who,” “what,” “when,” or “where.”

Examples of level-one questions for Cinderella include:

- What were Cinderella’s slippers made of?
- Who helped Cinderella get ready for the ball?

2. Write three level-one questions for your Scripture passage. Include the answers for each of the level-one questions.

*Explanation of Level Two:* Level two includes questions that are more complex. The answers may be implied, but not directly stated, within the text. These questions often begin with “why” or “how.”

Examples of level-two questions for Cinderella include:

- Why didn’t Cinderella’s stepsisters like her?
- How did Cinderella get her name?

3. Write three level-two questions for your Scripture passage. Include the answers for each of the level-two questions.

*Explanation of Level Three:* Level-three questions may not directly mention the text at all. Rather, they seek to surface larger, more universal issues that the text implies, and examine the implications of those issues for life today. These questions often begin with “why” or “to what extent.” Examples of level-three questions for Cinderella include:

- Why are older women often portrayed as evil in fairy tales?
- To what extent is “happily ever after” a realistic goal for married couples?

4. Write three level-three questions for your Scripture passage. Do not write a response to the level-three questions at this time. Wait for further instructions from your teacher.

