

Exegetical Methodology: Ideological Criticism

A. Write the names of your group members here (this should be the same group you worked with in doing literary and sociohistorical criticism).

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

B. Circle the Scripture passage that your group has chosen for an ideological analysis. *Do not* choose a passage that you already worked on for the previous two learning experiences.

- Mark 7:24–30 (the Syrophenician woman)
- Matthew 4:1–11 (the temptation of Jesus)
- Matthew 8:5–13 (healing of the centurion's servant)
- Luke 1:46–55 (Mary's *Magnificat*)
- Luke 8:4–8 (Parable of the Sower)
- John 8:1–11 (woman caught in adultery)

C. Using the methodology of ideological criticism, analyze your chosen text. Each member of the group should record notes on your group's responses to the questions below, as well as additional comments. You will have 15 to 20 minutes to work on these questions.

1. What group of people might be viewed as superior in the text? What group of people might be viewed as inferior in the text?
2. How can this text be read and interpreted in a way that can help us liberate people who are dominated, oppressed, or marginalized?
3. In the text, does any particular group of people or a character demonstrate faith, intelligence, or perseverance? Which one or ones?



4. What do you notice about the way in which Jesus speaks about or interacts with this particular person or group of people?

 5. In what way might this text be used by a particular group in society to dominate or oppress another group?

 6. In what way might this text be used by a particular group in society to support their opinions or perceptions of a specific issue?
- D.** Based on your group's responses to these questions, create a billboard that conveys what you have learned about this text through ideological criticism. Be prepared to both display and explain your billboard to the class.

