SMALL GROUP PREPARATION WORKSHEET

WORKSHOP ON BIBLICAL EXPOSITION

Name:_____   Text:_____

INSTRUCTIONS: In your small group, you will have 5 minutes to present on each of your texts (one text each in two different small group sessions). For each, you should begin by stating the theme and aim of your talk on the text (see questions), and then walk us through how you arrived at your theme and aim. Please prepare a one-page handout on each text for your group that gives an overview of your work including, but not limited to, your answers to these preparation questions (10 copies).

1. Outline the **structure** of the text in a way that represents the author's organization of the text. Please provide an outline that clearly indicates verse breaks for each unit and provide headings. [*Consider grammar, repetition key terms, sequence, sudden grammatical/topical changes, rhetoric, etc.*]

2. What emphasis does the structure reveal?

3. How does the immediate **context**—the passages on both sides of your text—inform the meaning of your text? [*Consider this immediate literary context first and the author's situation and the situation of the church or person to whom the letter was written second*]

4. Drawing on your work in structure, emphasis and context, sate the central **theme** of the text in one complete sentence. [*A theme should reveal the author's big idea or primary point of the passage.*]

5. What are a few ways that your text **relates to the gospel** (i.e. the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, repentance, forgiveness of sins)? Which of these ways best fits your text? [*Consider New Testament references as well as different methods of connecting such as typology, analogy, promise-fulfillment, biblical theological themes, and others.*]

6. In one sentence, what is the **author's aim** for his audience in this text? Given that aim, what **implication(s) and/or application(s)** for your audience would you draw out in your sermon?

On the back of this page and for your own benefit, you can sketch out a homiletical outline that you might use for the text.