

BOOK SURVEY

- I. Read the book 1-3 times.
 - A. One sitting.
 - B. Not slowly.
 - C. Aloud if possible.
 - D. Use more than one version.

- II. Summarize the content and historical background of the book.
For the historical background (author, date, location), use a Bible dictionary or encyclopedia.
 - E. **Who.**
 - 1. Author.
 - F. **What.**
 - 2. What are my general impressions?
 - 3. What atmosphere is dominant?
 - 4. What key words and phrases stand out?
 - 5. Assign chapter titles.
 - a. Preferably one word, not more than three.
 - b. Picturesque words.
 - c. Words from the text.
 - d. Words which tell you where you are in the book.
 - 6. Trace repeated words or themes.
 - G. **When** - date of authorship.
 - H. **Where.**
 - 7. Location of author.
 - I. **Why.**
 - 1. Purpose. What was the author trying to accomplish by writing the book? (Ex. John 20:31-32, "But these are written in order that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.")
 - 2. Occasion. What situation to which the author was responding?
 - F. How - what literary method is used to communicate the message? (Ex. historical narrative, a letter, poems, proverbs, prophecy.)

- III. Write a subject/compliment statement for the book.
 - J. Subject: In 5-15 words answer the question, "What is the author talking about?"
 - K. Compliment: In 5-15 words answer the question, "What is the author saying about what he is talking about?"
 - L. Subject/Compliment statement: Join the subject and compliment together to form a sentence.

Nehemiah

Author – who wrote it	Purpose – why it was written
Time – when it was written	Geography 1 – where it was written
Occasion – what prompted the writing	Literary Method – what form of writing