

## Bible Study Methods

### Phrases & Sentences pt. 1

#### Linking words

- Translations
  - Being able to read Greek and Hebrew is of great value and help when studying Scripture.
  - But to be able to study Scripture, to know the Word, and know God you do not have to be able to read original languages.
    - That being said, if you do not use original languages there will be some extra steps required in study.
    - A good step to take is to read the passage in multiple translations.

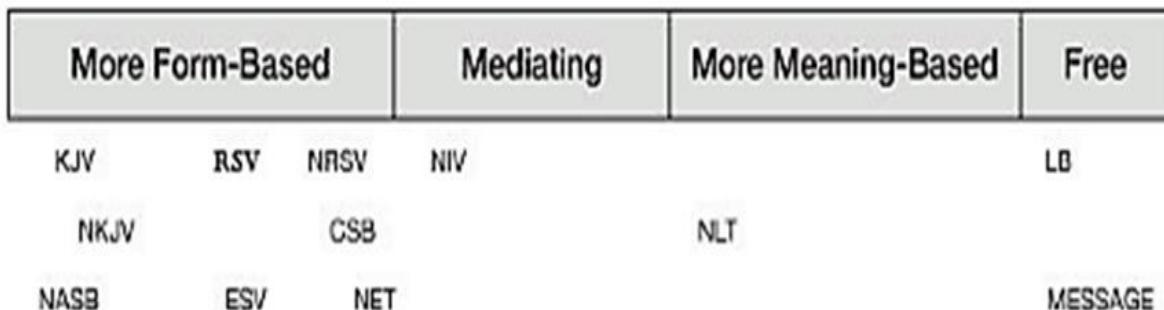




Fig. 3.1. Translation Spectrum

- So that
  - Purpose
    - 1 John 2:1 “My little children, I am writing these things to you **so that** you may not sin.” (ESV)
    - John’s purpose in writing is to help believers not sin.
  - Result
    - Luke 12:1 “When a crowd of many thousands had gathered, so that they were trampling on one another, Jesus began to speak first to his disciples” (NIV).
- Conditional statements (if-then statements)
  - If the first part of the statement is true, then the second part is also “true”.
  - If the first part of the condition is met, then the second part also happens.
  - The “then” in conditional statements is very often implied and not necessary.
  - Example: 1 John 1:7-10
- Therefore
  - Think through what a therefore is there for.
  - Reason                      **therefore**                      result/consequence
  - Matthew 10:16                                            result/consequence
  - “I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.” (NIV)
- For
  - The word “for” works, in some ways, the opposite direction of therefore.
  - But instead of the reason preceding the linking word, it follows it.
  -  **For**                      reason

- Hebrews 4:14-15
  - “Let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.” (ESV)
- Additional notes
  - While you don’t need to write the arrows down every time you see these words, it is helpful as you think through where the reasoning is given in a passage.
  - There are other linking words that work similarly.
    - Words like therefore:
      - Consequently
      - For this reason
      - Thus
    - Words like for
      - Because
      - Since
      - So
    - These words can have other uses as well.
- As you read through Philippians this week pay more attention to the following words/phrases:
  - So that, therefore, for, because, thus, so, consequently, for this reason, since.
  - Think through how focusing on these words helps you better understand places where you find them.
  - Come prepared to discuss your findings next week.