

SESSION

06

WE ARE MADE FOR
LEARNING



INSTRUCTOR**THOMAS GERLACH**

I was born 1961 into a Christian family close to Cologne, Germany. As a young man of 18 I faced my saviour Jesus Christ, who challenged me through a preaching about John 11 – from this moment I knew in my heart that following Christ is life itself.

I was called to a Church in Hagen in the Ruhr area. Here I met people from many nations in 2015 as they came to Germany. Today I am serving them full time to help them to find a home in Germany, both spiritually and physically as they must overcome many obstacles.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The course is broken down into six specific sessions. Each session will include a video lecture, course guide, and in some cases short assignments to help you grow. We encourage you to not only do this course on your own time, but with others who share the same passion to expand God's Kingdom.

SESSION OVERVIEW

01 Learning from God & Learning about God

02 What Happens to me When I Learn?

03 Logic as a Tool for Learning

04 Logic Connects Meaning

05 Logic Helps to Understand Truth

06 We are Made to Learn

Session Summary

We are made for learning!

At the close we look again to ourselves how we learn with effective methods and strategies. Each one of us can develop a unique strategy of learning that makes it a real joy carried through all your life.



6. We are made for learning

Roadblocks for learning

When I judge by myself:

1. **I do not understand; I do not know anything about it!**
I quit to listen.
2. **"I know everything about it, you don't need to talk about it more"**
Arrogance
3. **"I will not think about it. You cannot think like this."**
Fear and worries

John 8,32-36

"If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Rates of remembering

Gal.3,1 b

Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified.

How much information can you remember by?

Reading texts	10%
Listening	20%
Seeing a picture, illustration	30%
Listening and seeing a picture	50%
To repeat and explain it with own words	70 %
Do what is taught	90%

James 1,22

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Different learning styles

Learning modalities

Your learning behaviour comes from your upbringing, your culture but in its biggest part from the way you have been created by God.

Created unique, look at some tracks you might prefer to walk in, when it comes to learning. But these tracks are only a generalization. Every individual is using various approaches in a unique combination. When you know about these modalities then it becomes easier for you to find your individual style of learning.



1. Visualising style

The major sense you like to use in learning is your eye. Vision is most important for you.

When you are a person with a visualising style, you are seeing the world in pictures, graphs and symbols. They are creating very quickly pictures and stories in your mind and help you tremendously to remember things. You are “looking” for the red line through the whole issue. How information is connected to other things is detected by you quickly.

If you like to memorize and to read precisely than you vision is dominant. You might tend to read silently. Numbers are remembered by seeing them in the mind. You like to read and write and care for the correct spelling of the words, in the same picture of the word you have kept them in your mind.

What is good for you?

You might love to make plans as they help you getting your learning achieved. Here comes a great advantage of online studies. You are the master of your plans. Dealing with special themes take time for yourself to find structures in which you order the information.

Love to have a certain spot where they learn. A certain order helps them to concentrate. Chaos on the other hand is deviating your attention.

You are looking out more into the details. You like to deepen your understanding. You can imagine how it works. Make early notes on the results you can see.

Challenges:

When you think quietly you might do this in full sentences. This makes it hard to make quick notes. You might like the PowerPoint files as well as the summaries you will get.

Like to make things right even from the first place. But when it comes to Evangelism and Church planting you should decide for yourself to risk to make mistakes. There will be times when God is not yet blessing, and you just need to persevere. Keep going!

How do you learn best?

Your own picture of the issue is key for you for understanding and applying. Look for visual aids, illustrations, and examples. Graphs, pictures, and diagrams help you to remember.

As you try to understand a certain issue put the ideas into a graph or mind-map. Stories and vivid description of a situation or issue help you best to create your own pictures in your mind.

Use coloured pens to underline or highlight important terms in the text to remember. Learning vocabulary of foreign languages, special terms or concept try to connect the word with an inner picture that you imagine

**2. Auditory style**

Your access to the learning matter is your ear. When you can hear something about the issue you have to learn, you remember it more likely. Your own voice speaks in rhythm. You pick up on the melody of voices of the teachers. Yes, you like to talk and to understand things through interaction with people. You like to ask questions but it is very fine for you to discuss.

You are a people person. Your voice is clear and you like to listen actively. You like to explain things. The information about an issue is given step by step, lining it up to a long train of thought.

What is good for you?

You like to speak out loud when you think. You develop your thoughts through speaking. Choose interaction with other students. Even try to find a learning group. Sermons and presentations mean a lot to you. Just take time to hear them even twice or three times.

Challenges:

However, noise and chaotic discussion takes your concentration away. Sometimes even silence can be hard for you to bear.

How do you learn best?

Take any opportunity to find somebody you can explain what you have learned recently. Through your speech you get things well ordered in your brain. You can use our presentations again because repetitive talk helps you to find information you might have not heard before.

When you are learning by yourself, read loud what is important to remember. Take your mobile and record what is very important for you.

Some of you might have the experience that nice music in the background helps you to concentrate on your reading. But others might say I need to sit in a very silent spot, when I want to remember what I have read.



3. Kinaesthetic style

You are sensing your world around you mainly through touch, movement, smell and taste. You learn by doing. In many languages the word grasp something is used as a parallel for understanding. You are grasping even literally. When you learn your body moves, your hands wander around and when you try to remember something you hold something tight in your hand. You care much about people, but you build on deeper relationships. The more you trust somebody the better you learn from him. You ask yourself what you feel about an issue. It like to feel motives of the presenter which helps you to grasp the whole story.

What is good for you?

You like to learn with other people. Silent work is a challenge for you. You might not like to plan but just jump into the material. Your ways of learning are highly individual, but you prefer a spot and a group where you feel well. This helps you remember, as you connect the information with the place, the atmosphere, and other circumstances you were in when you heard about it.

You learn the best when you have the chance to do it yourself. When you touch it or feel the situation then you can retrace or reproduce it best. You might like peaceful discussion that gives you time to think and feel. Many words without pause, long presentations tend to lose you.

Words:

I grasp it, I got it.

This I can sympathise with them.

This feels good/bad to me.

How do you learn best?

As you learn the best by doing it, you might take the text and recreate it with your own words. You make summary of what you got from it.

Try to find for everything what you learn what is the practical application. For what is this good to know? This gives you the motivation and the insight to understand the matter deeply.

When you take the information and start researching you will understand things very deep. You like to use a break very productively. This gives you the opportunity to find things to touch and find a way to remember when you are playing around.

Keep things in your hand and move around, like walk to some place to help you brain to concentrate.

Go and gather what is laid in front of you

Making notes versus following the thought

Can I do 4 things at the same time?

- Listening carefully
- Following the thought – understanding
- Formulate words in your mind
- Write down the important, meaningful words

Notes are:

Catchwords – only 2-3 words of a sentence

As they come to my mind, no choice

Signs – highlight how I feel about these thoughts

Question marks lead for further studies

Mind-mapping, clustering

During session:

Choose extra paper for a mind map

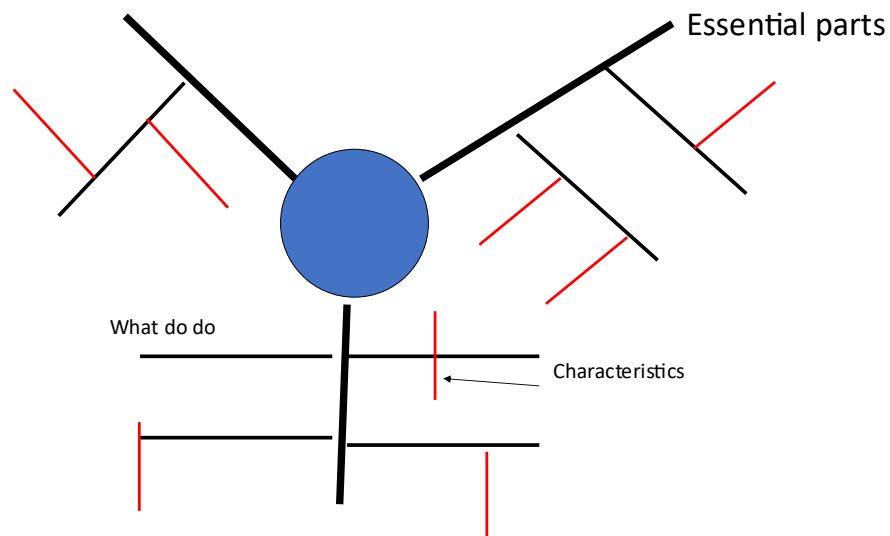
Paint in it while you listen to the presentation

After session:

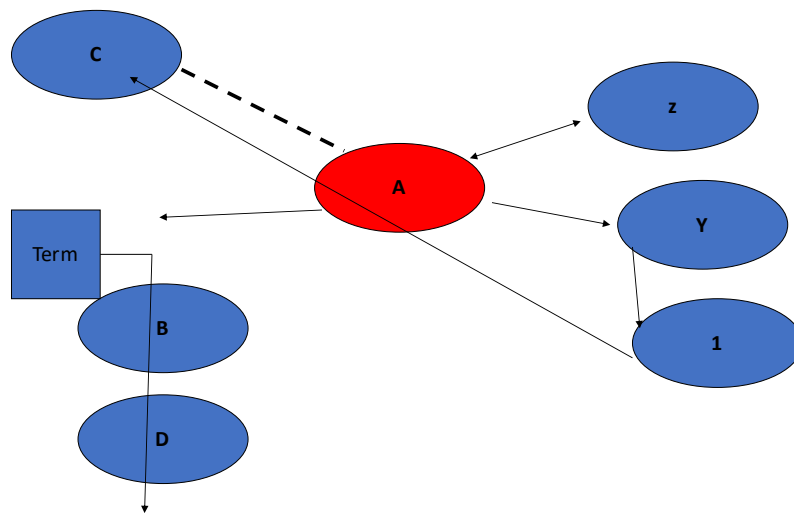
Use coloured pen to highlight your interpretation

Choose new key ideas for every area

Mind mapping



Clustering



5 Fingers for my check-up

1. What would be the key word I need to keep from what I have learned today?
2. What was my goal for today and have I come closer to it?
3. How was my mentality today, how did I feel about it?
4. How could I teach or help others today?
5. How was my body and soul benefiting today?

May God bless you as it is said in Psalm 1

Repetition of thought

Psalm 1:1

*1 Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers,*

Completion of thought

Psalm 1:2

*2 but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,
and who meditates on his law day and night.*

Contrast in

Psalm 1:6

*6 For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.*

Psalm1: 1+2

He does not

not walk

or stand

or sit

with the sinner, the wicked person

The character of the **righteous**:

2 but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,

The delight, the joy – to rejoice in the LORD is our strength!

With this power we are studying

We want to know more about our God!

The results of your studies will be:

3 That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,

*which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— **whatever they do prospers.***