

# How to Answer

## Question 5: When does the Action Happen?

*Time frames can also provide important contextual information for our study.*

1. Read the study passage again, looking for time information such as:
  - **Specific days** (Sabbath, third day), months (Chislev, sixth month), years (twentieth year), or seasons (winter)
  - **Time of day** (third hour, evening)
  - **Time periods** (after three hours, six days earlier, seven years hence)
  - **Sequential data** (before, then, after)
  - **Concurrent events** (in the days when, during)
  - **Circumstances** (if/then, while).
2. Mark (I draw a tan clock nearby and underline if it's more than one word) what you find on your study sheets and/or make a note about it in your study journal.
3. Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance about time detail. If it appears significant, mark your study sheet next to the location (I use a tan question mark in the margin) as a reminder to dig deeper.

### Hints & Hacks

- Beware of assuming sequential or chronological order when the author doesn't supply any time information: an author's recording of one event after another doesn't always mean they occurred in that sequence.
- I've discovered **narratives, letters, and prophecies** seem more likely to **contain specific time information, sequential data, and concurrent events**, while **instruction, law, and poetry** writers seem to favor information about **sequence and circumstances**.
- If timing or sequencing appears to be an important part of the study text, I list the events/circumstances in the order specified, then draw arrows between them to show progression. The illustration helps me remember the sequence better and I can easily find it in my notes later.