



• GOING DEEPER •

How to read the Bible well....

Week 6: Application: So What?

Objective: By the end of this session, you will have some guides to help you determine a fitting response to the truth you have been confronted with in your reading and study of Scripture.

Introduction

There is nothing the human heart resists more than change. Yet spiritual growth is a commitment to change.

²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to *his* purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined *to be conformed* to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. (Romans 8:28-30 ESV).

I. Learning to _____.

A. One must know the interpretation.

If the interpretation is erroneous, the application will be erroneous. If the interpretation is more in line with the author's intended meaning, the application will be more fitting to what the Scriptures calls us to. The better I understand the passage, the better I am able to respond to it.

Principle: One interpretation; many applications

B. One must know him/herself.

The Scriptures reveals who we really are before God. Knowing ourselves involves understanding what the Scriptures reveal about who we were before we trusted in Christ and our new identity in Him after we believed.

²⁰ But that is not the way you learned Christ!— ²¹ assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, ²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. (Ephesians 4:20-24 ESV)

II. Learning to _____.

We must relate the Scriptures to our experience. Christianity is best understood as a series of new relationships, according to 2 Corinthians 5:17. Spiritual growth is not just a process; it is a dynamic process.

¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. (2 Corinthians 5:17).

God's word affects all of our relationships: with God, with self, with others, with enemies

III. Learning to _____.

A. Joshua 1:8

This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall **meditate** on it day and night, so that you **may be careful to do according to all that is written in it:** for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.

B. Psalm 1:1-2

Blessed is the man
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
²but his delight is in the law of the Lord,
and **on his law he meditates day and night.**

NOTE: Meditation is always linked with memorization. Memorization provides the mind with the fuel needed to make meditation profitable.

IV. Learning to _____.

This is the ultimate goal of application. Anytime you study the Scriptures, ask, "Lord, how can this truth change my life in a specific area?" Our hunger for the Word will be in direct proportion to our obedience to that Word.

Helpful Questions for Application

- What implications does this truth have for my life?
- How would I think differently if I was convinced that this truth is really true i.e., is reality?
- How would I feel differently?
- How would I behave differently?

- How does it teach me to trust God and walk in obedience?
- How does it warn me or lead me to change?
- Is there any example for me to follow?
- Is there a promise to claim?

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Week #6 – Take Home

Spend some time meditating on the book of Jonah based on the study you have done so far. Ask the Holy Spirit how he would want you to respond to the truths you have been confronted with in His word. Write down several specific applications keeping in mind the helpful questions for application.

1.

2.

3.