

Listen and Obey: The Application of Scripture to Everyday Life

Principles of Application

Application must be based in good _____.

- We read and study so we may _____ the text.
- We read and study so we may _____ the text.

Exegesis: _____

What did it _____? (What does it _____?)

Questions to ask:

- _____ is the original audience? Who is speaking? Who is being spoken to?
- _____ was the original meaning? What is being said? What is not being said?
- _____? When does this happen? Is the setting important?
- _____ is the original setting? Where does this happen? Does the location change?
- _____? Why is this happening? Does the passage explicitly tell us why or are we supposed to understand why?
- _____? If an event, "how does it happen?" If a teaching, "how should we obey?"

Application is connected to _____.

"You cannot be profoundly influenced by that which you do not know. If you don't know God's word, its influence on your life will be minimal."^{*}

A proper approach to studying the Bible[†]

- Goal of theological study: _____. (1 Corinthians 8:1)
"First, theological study must not be a barren academic search for ultimate truth." (250)
"Omniscience is not required, but faithfulness is." (251)
- Motive for theological study: _____.
"Biblical knowledge unapplied destroys; knowledge applied gives life." (252)
- Attitude in theological study: _____.
"An essential element in studying Bible doctrine is humility. Humility must clear the way for love to operate." (252)

Reasons we must be humble when studying the Bible:

- Revelation is only _____. (Deuteronomy 29:29; John 16:12)
- We are _____. (1 Corinthians 13:9-12)

- We are fallen.
- We must have an open mind to the Spirit's work.
- We must be willing to _____ before we hear.

"The eager search for basic truth is evidence of an active surrender of heart, which is a parent indispensable in the birth of humility." (257)

Example: 1 Corinthians 5:9-13

Application must be discerning (What does it _____?)

We move from what it *meant* to what it _____. We already asked who, Discern the changes from the answers to the first questions.

- Have any of these changed to the present day?
- If so, do any of these changes matter?
- Does the text _____ itself or do we need to discern the meaning ourselves?

Transhistorical meaning: "The message intended for readers of a passage beyond the original readers."[‡]

Example: Romans 15:4.

Excluded elements of transhistorical meaning:

- Covenantally _____ elements.
- Personally and locally _____ elements. (Romans 16:1-2; 2 Timothy 4:13)
- Culturally _____ elements

Universal truths and applications.

^{*} R. Kent Hughes, "The Way of Blessing," *Reformation & Revival*, 3:3 (Summer 1994), 91.

[†] Robertson McQuilkin, *Understanding and Applying the Bible*, (Chicago: Moody, 2009), 250-257.

[‡] Ken Casillas, *Beyond Chapter and Verse*, 208.