

**SKETCHNOTE
ADAPTATION**

BY GARY LAU

OF

**LIVING
BY THE
BOOK**

BY HOWARD HENDRICKS & WILLIAM HENDRICKS



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and the...



I love... studying the Bible
living the Bible
teaching the Bible

Look up
Ezra 7:10



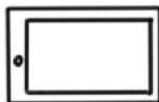
Honolulu, Hawaii

21° 18' 17.2 N
157° 51' 28.2 W
21.304772, -157.857822



Living by the Book

- Howard G. Hendricks
- William D. Hendricks
- Moody publishers
- Chicago, Illinois
- 1991, 2007
- Kindle Version



iPad 12.9" Apple Procreate
2nd Gen. Pencil

#sketchnote #biblesketchnote

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

1 OBSERVATION What do I see?

TERMS

What are the key words?

STRUCTURE

What's the subject, verb, object?
What's the climax/resolution?
cause/effect? question/answer?

GENRE

What's the literary form of the book?

ATMOSPHERE

What's the setting, context environment?

2 INTERPRETATION *Hmmm* What does it mean?

QUESTIONS

To understand the text, you need to ask many questions

ANSWERS

The answers will come from the observation process

INTEGRATION

Put the answers together into a meaningful whole

3 APPLICATION How does it work?

HOW DOES IT WORK FOR ME?

What does this have to say to me?
How would this work in my life?

HOW DOES IT WORK FOR OTHERS?

How would this transform their life?
How would this affect their marriage, family, home, school, work?

WHY PEOPLE DON'T STUDY THE BIBLE

I need something
that works



I don't know how



I'm just a layman



I just don't have time



I have doubts
about the Bible



I can't seem to make
it interesting



HOW TO OBSERVE A VERSE, PART I

ACTS 1:8

Look for an important term

This indicates contrast

But you shall receive power
when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;
and you shall be My witnesses
both in Jerusalem,
and in all Judea
and Samaria,
and even to the remotest part of the earth

What does the word
but force me to do?

Go back to the
preceding context

What does the preceding
context say?

"In my former book"

What former book?

The gospel of Luke

Acts & Luke are written
by the same person.

Luke - Acts forms a
2-volume set

What does the preceding
context say?

They ask Jesus, "Is this the
time you restore the kingdom
to Israel?"

Jesus answers in the
negative and positive

- It is not for you to know
- But you shall receive power

This is part
of a
dialogue
where the
disciples are
asking
questions and
Jesus is
answering
them

HOW TO OBSERVE A VERSE, PART 2

Look for an important term

Who is this referring to?

The apostles

What do we know about the apostles?

1. Jesus chose them
2. They were all Jewish
3. They came from a variety of backgrounds: some were fishermen, one was a tax collector (worked for Rome) one was a zealot (wanted to overthrow the Roman empire.) and one would betray Jesus
4. They walked with Jesus for 3.5 years
5. They are anxious about the coming kingdom

ACTS 1:8

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth

What is the main verb in this verse?

Shall receive

What are they going to receive?

Power

What tense is it?

Future tense

What is power?

Strength or ability to accomplish what Jesus wants them to

That looks ahead to something that will happen later

HOW TO OBSERVE A VERSE, PART 3

ACTS 1:8

What's important about this phrase?

It's a cause-effect relationship.

The power won't come until the Holy Spirit comes.

Look for an important term

Who is the Holy Spirit?

1. The third person of the Trinity
 2. He is supernatural
 3. He's the person linked with the power
- Therefore, we are talking about supernatural power

Did the disciples need this?

Yes! In order to do what Jesus wants them to do

But you shall receive power
[when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;
and you shall be My witnesses]
both in Jerusalem,
and in all Judea
and Samaria,
and even to the remotest part of the earth

Look for an important term

This indicates the power does not exist within them thus it has to come from the outside
There will be an invasion of supernatural abilities on ordinary humans

What's important about this phrase?

It's a cause-effect relationship
Cause: you shall receive power
Effect: you shall be my witnesses
The power comes first, then the witnessing

What is a witness?

Someone who has experienced something

HOW TO OBSERVE A VERSE, PART 4

ACTS 1:8

Look for an important term

Both? Doesn't that mean two things? But there are four listed.

In the Greek, it means...
"not only... but also"
"both... and"
or the beginning of a series

What do we know about Jerusalem?

1. It's a city
2. The temple is there
3. It's where the crucifixion had taken place
4. It's where they are at this moment

How is Jerusalem connected to Judea?

Jerusalem is a city in the province of Judea

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth

What were the main provinces?

Galilee, Samaria and Judca

Jesus included Samaria because that's an area Jewish people avoided

What is meant by the remotest part of the earth?

Wherever there are people



HOW TO OBSERVE A VERSE, PART 5

ACTS 1:8

How does this verse relate to the book?

Do the apostles obey the Lord's command?

This verse is actually an outline to the book of Acts

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and even to the remotest part of the earth

What happened in Jerusalem?

1. Pentecost
2. Peter & John healed a lame man and then was arrested
3. Ananias & Sapphira lied and died
4. Deacons were appointed

How do they reach Judea & Samaria?

Persecution against the church caused believers to scatter to the regions of Judea & Samaria

Witnesses take the message of Christ to the known world as far as Rome



HOW TO READ THE BIBLE, PART I

READ THOUGHTFULLY

Thoughtful reading involves study



Put your thinking cap on



Don't throw your mind into neutral

PRND

Apply the same mental discipline that you would to any subject in which you take a vital interest



If you are a STOCKBROKER



Use the same mental intensity to study scripture that you would the Wall Street Journal

If you are a PILOT



Pay as much attention to the Word as you would to a flight plan or a weather advisory

If you are a NURSE



Look for the "vital signs" in the biblical text as you would with any patient on your floor

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE, PART 2

READ REPEATEDLY

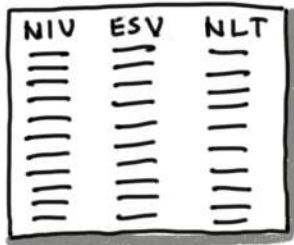
Read entire books
in one sitting



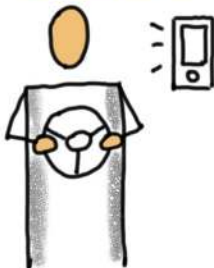
Start at the
beginning of the book



Read the Bible in
different translations



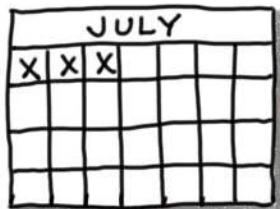
Listen to recordings
of Scripture



Read the Bible
out loud



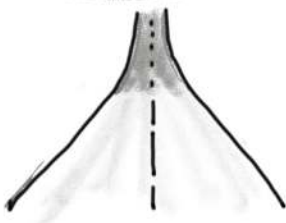
Set up a schedule
for Bible reading



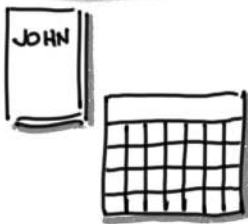
HOW TO READ THE BIBLE, PART 3

READ PATIENTLY

Prepare for the long haul



Work with one book for one month



Zoom in & Zoom out



Alter your approach



Be patient with the text



Be patient with yourself



HOW TO READ THE BIBLE, PART 4

READ INQUISITIVELY

WHO?

- Who are the people in the text?
- What is said about the person or people?
- What do the person or people say?

WHAT?

- What is happening in this text?
- What are the events? In what order?
- What is the writer trying to communicate?

WHERE?

- Where is the narrative taking place?
- Where are the people coming from? Going?
- Where is the writer?

WHEN?

- When did the events in the text take place?
- When did they occur in relation to other events in scripture?
- When was the writer writing?

WHY?

- Why is this included?
- Why is it placed here?
- Why does this follow that?
- Why does this precede that?
- Why does this person say that?

WHEREFORE?

- In other words, so what?
- What difference would it make if I applied this truth?

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE, PART 5

READ PRAYERFULLY

TWO GROUPS WHO CAN TEACH YOU THE MOST ABOUT PRAYING

- ① CHILDREN ② NEW CONVERTS



DON'T TRY TO IMITATE OTHER CHRISTIANS...

otherwise you'll pick up the lingo, clichés, & trite expressions

TURN SCRIPTURE INTO PRAYER... like Nehemiah

- ① ADORATION



"...the great and awesome God..."
(Nehemiah 1:5)

- ② CONFESSION



"I and my Father's house have sinned"
(Nehemiah 1:6)

- ③ PETITION



"Let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant"
(Nehemiah 1:11)



HOW TO READ THE BIBLE, PART 6

READ IMAGINATIVELY

USE DIFFERENT TRANSLATIONS



NIV
NASB
NLT
ESV
RSV
CEB

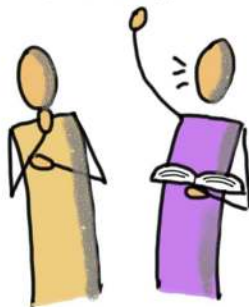
Read something different to stimulate your mind

REWRITE THE TEXT IN YOUR OWN PARAPHRASE



Rewrite the text into something that makes sense to you

HAVE SOMEONE READ THE TEXT OUT LOUD



The human voice brings LIFE to words

VARY YOUR SETTING



Explore different environments to read the Word

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE, PART 7

READ MEDITATIVELY

LEARN TO REFLECT ON THE WORD OF GOD



- Chew on the Word of God
- Look for insights
- Look for ways to apply Scripture
- Write down what you observe
- Spend time in prayer

BUT THAT'S
HARD!
I DON'T HAVE
THE TIME!

YOU CAN'T
DOWNLOAD



What does God's Word say?

① This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth but you shall meditate on it day and night - Joshua 1:8

③ His delight is in the law of the Lord and in His law he meditates day and night. Psalm 1:2

② May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight. Psalm 19:14

④ Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day. Psalm 119:97

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE, PART 8

READ GRAMMATICALLY



Ugh! I hate grammar!
I left that back in high school!

However, the Bible is not haphazard in its choice of words and their order. The authors were purposeful in their choice of words.



SUBJECT

Does the acting

VERB

The action words

OBJECT

Is acted upon

He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups.

MODIFIERS

Descriptive words such as adverbs and adjectives

PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

Tells where the action is taking place

CONNECTIVES

connects phrases and thoughts

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE, PART 9

READ STRUCTURALLY

1 BIOGRAPHICAL

Key persons

- Abraham
- Moses
- David
- Jesus
- Paul



2 GEOGRAPHICAL

Key places

- Jerusalem
- Judea
- Egypt
- Dead Sea



3 HISTORICAL

Key Events

- The Exodus
- The Fall of Jericho
- David vs. Goliath
- Feeding of the

5,000



4 CHRONOLOGICAL

Key Times

- Deborah... Gideon... Samuel
- Saul... David... Solomon
- 1ST/2ND/3RD Missionary Journeys



5 IDEALOGICAL

Key Ideas & Concepts

- Justification
- Sin
- Redemption
- Grace
- Propitiation
- Prayer

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE, PART 10

READ TELESCOPICALLY

- ① LOOK FOR THE CONNECTIVES
Words that link the text together
"but" "and" "therefore" "otherwise"

Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell but kindness to you, provided that you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

Romans 11:22

- ② PAY ATTENTION TO CONTEXT
Always consult the neighbors of a verse or paragraph to find out what the broader context is

PRIOR:
"Build homes in Babylon"

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

AFTER:
"I will bring you back to Judah one day"

- ③ EVALUATE THE PASSAGE IN LIGHT OF THE BOOK AS A WHOLE

Understand the big picture of a book

THE BOOK OF MARK		
1:1 - 8:26	8:27 - 8:30	8:31 - 16:20
The Person of Christ	"Who do people say that I am?" (This is the hinge of the book)	The Purpose of Christ

- ④ LOOK AT THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF THE BOOK

Know how the book fits historically

- Who is this? · What did he do within the Roman Empire?
- When did he reign?

"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. Luke 2:1

HOW TO OBSERVE A PASSAGE, PART I

NEHEMIAH 1:1-4

What can be observed from this phrase?

1. This is written by Nehemiah
2. He is the son of Hachaliah
3. This is autobiographical as seen by the many personal pronouns - I, me, my

The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah
Now it happened in the month of Chislev in the twentieth year as I was in Susa the capital that Hanani, one of my brothers came with certain men from Judah
And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped who had survived the exile and Jerusalem
And they said to me "The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame.
The wall of Jerusalem is broken down and its gates are destroyed by fire.
As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven

What can be observed from this phrase?

1. Chislev is between November and December, thus early winter
2. Nehemiah is using a Jewish calendar, not a Persian one although he is in Persia
3. We don't know about the twentieth year yet
4. Susa, the capital is a luxurious winter palace

HOW TO OBSERVE A PASSAGE, PART 2

NEHEMIAH 1:1-4

What can be observed from this phrase?

1. Hanani is probably Jewish
2. He is not alone
3. They come from Judah

What can be observed from this phrase?

1. Nehemiah asks about the people - the Jews
2. Then he asks about the place - Jerusalem

The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah
Now it happened in the month of Chislev in the twentieth year as I was in Susa the capital that Hanani, one of my brothers came with certain men from Judah
And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped who had survived the exile and Jerusalem
And they said to me
"The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame.
The wall of Jerusalem is broken down and its gates are destroyed by fire.
As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven

What can be observed from this phrase?

1. Hanani answers about the people - the remnant
2. He answers about the place - the wall and the gates

What can be observed from this phrase?

Nehemiah had 3 responses:

1. Physical - he sat down
2. Emotional - he wept & mourned
3. Spiritual - he fasted & prayed

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN THE BIBLE, PART I

THINGS THAT ARE EMPHASIZED

① AMOUNT OF SPACE

How much space is given to a topic?

- Genesis: total of 50 chapters
11 for Creation, Fall, Flood, Babel
39 for Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph
- Matthew: 1,062 verses
342 (32%) are discourses on Jesus

③ ORDER



Strategic placement of the material

"Simon, whom He named Peter, and Andrew his brother, and James and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot, and Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor." - Luke 6:14-16

Which names are mentioned first?
Which name is mentioned last?

② STATED PURPOSE

Authors sometime state the purpose

"[The signs that Jesus did] are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name."

- John 20: 30-31

④ MOVEMENT FROM LESSER TO GREATER GREATER TO LESSER



Look at the rhythm of the story

- In King David's story, Samuel 11 is the pivot. Everything before then is great, everything after goes downhill
- In the book of Acts, everything begins with events of chapter 2

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN THE BIBLE, PART 2

THINGS THAT ARE REPEATED

TERMS, PHRASES AND CLAUSES

- In Psalm 136, the phrase "His love endures forever" is repeated 26 times
- In Hebrews 11, the word "faith" appears 18 times

CHARACTERS

Barnabas, which means Son of Encouragement, shows up in Acts whenever someone needs help

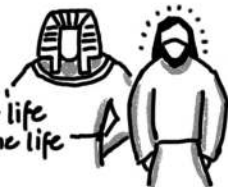
- Paul (Acts 9:27)
- The church in Antioch (Acts 11:22)
- John Mark (Acts 15:36-39)

INCIDENTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES



In the book of Judges, the author repeats the phrase, "The Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord" at certain sections to emphasize the condition of their hearts

PATTERNS



- parallels in the life of Joseph and the life of Jesus
- Contrast between the evil acts of King Saul and the righteous acts of the future King David

NEW TESTAMENT USE OF OLD TESTAMENT PASSAGES

- Matthew's use of Old Testament prophecies throughout his gospel
- Old Testament characters are in abundance in Hebrews 11

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN THE BIBLE, PART 3

THINGS THAT ARE RELATED

CAUSE & EFFECT

- Acts 8:1 - The Martyrdom of Stephen
Cause: Persecution
Effect: Preaching
- Nehemiah 1 - The Prayer of Nehemiah
Cause: If the people repented
Effect: The Lord would return them to their land

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

- Rom 8:1 - "What then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means!"
- Matthew 6:27 - "Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?"
- Mark 4:40 - "Why are you so timid?"

MOVEMENT FROM THE GENERAL TO THE SPECIFIC

General - Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth

Specific -

- Day 1 - light (1:3-5)
- Day 2 - separated the water from the skies (1:6-8)
- Day 3 - dry land & vegetation (1:9-13)

General - Matthew 6:1

Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness before men to be seen by them

Specific - Matthew 6:2-18

1. In the area of giving (v. 2-4)
2. In the area of praying (v. 5-15)
3. In the area of fasting (v. 16-18)

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN THE BIBLE, PART 4

THINGS THAT ARE LIKE & UNLIKE

LIKE

SIMILES

A word picture that compares 2 things using "as" or "like"

Psalms 42:1 - **As** the deer pants for streams of water



1 Peter 2:2 - **Like** newborn babes long for the pure milk of the word

UNLIKE

USE OF BUT

A change of direction is coming —

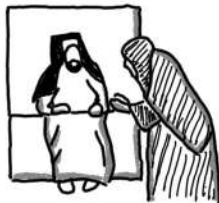
"You have heard it said... **but** I say to you" (Mt 5)

"**But** you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you." (Acts 1:8)



METAPHORS

"If a corrupt and indifferent human judge finally gives in to the persistent pleas of a widow, how much more will the heavenly Father respond."



METAPHORS

A word picture that compares 2 things without using "as" or "like"

John 15:1 - I am the true vine

Jesus tells Nicodemus, "You must be born again."
- John 3:3



IRONY



In the midst of a crowd, an unknown woman touches Jesus' cloak. He stops, recognizes her faith and heals her. (Lk 8)

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN THE BIBLE, PART 5

THINGS THAT ARE TRUE TO LIFE

WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TELL YOU ABOUT REALITY?

ABRAHAM & ISAAC

Abraham knows he will need to sacrifice his son. There must have been a sense of inevitable loss of a loved one.



DAVID & BATHSHEBA

King David was the greatest king of Israel but everything went downhill after he had an affair with Bathsheba: murder, death, family chaos, rebellion. You think David felt regret?



MOSES GETS ANGRY

Moses struck the rock rather than speak to it as God commanded. He was prevented from entering the Promised Land. He probably sensed disappointment.



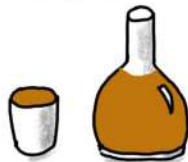
PETER DENIES CHRIST

After pledging his allegiance to Jesus, even to the point of death, Peter denies Christ three times. Imagine his sense of shame and anguish.



NOAH GETS DRUNK

Noah was a righteous and obedient man but was also susceptible to weakness like when he got drunk. Ever backslid?



THE RICH YOUNG RULER

Jesus told the rich young ruler to give everything he had to the poor which he asked what he had to do to inherit eternal life. Have you ever experienced grief?



WHY MUST WE INTERPRET SCRIPTURE?

BECAUSE THERE ARE SEVERAL BARRIERS

LANGUAGE

- The Bible was originally written in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek
- However, the English translations leaves us a long way from a complete understanding
- We have to recover the shades of meaning that translated words can't convey

CULTURAL

- The Bible is a product of cultures that are dramatically different from our own - and also different from each other
- We have to reconstruct the cultural context in areas of communication, transportation, trade, agriculture, occupations, religion, perceptions of time.

LITERARY

- The literary genres of the Bible are quite diverse and demand vastly different approaches
- We can't read the Song of Solomon the same way we read Romans
- We can't read Psalms the same way we read Galatians

COMMUNICATION

- Even though God Himself is speaking through Scripture, we must still contend with breakdowns in the communication process
- We have to settle with limited objectives in our interpretation of Scripture
- A finite person will have difficulty understanding an infinite Being

WHAT PITFALLS MUST BE AVOIDED WHEN INTERPRETING SCRIPTURE ?

① MISREADING THE TEXT

"I am the way" (Jn. 14:6)
not "I am a way"

"The love of money is a root of all sorts of evil" (1 Tim. 6:10)
not "Money is the root of all evil"

② DISTORTING THE TEXT

Making it say what you want it to say and not what it actually says.

It's one thing to struggle with difficult passages, it's another thing to distort it.

③ CONTRADICTING THE TEXT

To use the words of God to authorize a belief or practice that goes against the character of God

People have wrongly used scripture to advocate for genocide, prosperity, orgies

④ SUBJECTIVISM

The meaning of the text is in the text, not in our subjective response to the text

When you become a Christian, you don't throw your brain into neutral

Love the Lord with all your mind

⑤ RELATIVISM

Some people assume the Bible changes meaning over time... the text meant one thing when it was written but something else today

A passage can only have one proper INTERPRETATION

⑥ OVERCONFIDENCE

Some of the worst abuses of doctrine occur when someone sets himself up as the ultimate authority of a text

The process of INTERPRETATION never ends

WHAT ARE THE GENERAL GENRES OF THE BIBLE?

1 EXPOSITION

- A straightforward argument or explanation
- Appeals primarily to the mind
- Has a tight structure that moves logically
- An example is Romans

2 NARRATIVE & BIOGRAPHY

- These are stories
- Genesis, Exodus, the Gospels, Acts
- What is the plot?
- Who are the characters?
- How is this true to life?

3 PARABLES

- A brief tale that illustrates a moral principle
- May have been Jesus' preferred method of communication
- Simple, memorable, and entertaining and intended to have a powerful impact

4 POETRY

- Appeals to the emotions as well as imaginations
- Psalms were meant to be sung, not read; for worship
- Use of parallelism
- Uses hyperbole or extreme/exaggerated language

5 PROVERBS & WISDOM LITERATURE

- Short, poignant nugget of truth, typically practical
- Concerned with the consequences of behavior
- Contains principles not promises

6 PROPHECY & APOCALYPTIC

- A tone of warning and judgment
- The role of the prophet wasn't so much to tell the future but the Word of the Lord
- Not to foretell but forth-tell

OTHER GENRES INCLUDE : Encomium , Oratory , Pastoral , Satire , Tragedy

WHAT ARE THE KEYS TO INTERPRETATION?

PART I

CONTENT

"Give me understanding that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart."



Psalm 119:34

Look for

- Terms
- Structure
- Literary form
- Atmosphere

Ask

- Who
- What
- Where
- When
- Why
- Wherefore

SCRIPTURE
TEXT

Look for things
that are

- Emphasized
- Repeated
- Related
- Alike
- Unlike
- True to life

If you have done your homework well,
you will have uncovered the content
of the passage and you know what
the author is saying.

WHAT ARE THE KEYS TO INTERPRETATION?

PART 2

CONTEXT

The Bible is a 66-book collection, but together it is a unified book

LITERARY CONTEXT

The literary context of any verse is the paragraph of which it is a part, the section of which that paragraph is a part, and the book of which that section is a part. The ultimate context is the entire Bible.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

When is this taking place? Where does this passage fit in history? What else was taking place in the world at this time? What were some of the social, political, and technological influences on the writer & audience?

CULTURAL CONTEXT

The more you know about ancient cultures, the more insight you'll have into the text.

Whenever you study a verse, a paragraph, a section - always consult the neighbors of what you're studying

GEOGRAPHICAL CONTEXT

What was the terrain like? What topographic features made this region unique? What was the weather like? How far was this town from places mentioned in the text? What were the transportation routes? What size city was this?

THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

What did this author know about God? What was the relationship of his readers to God? How did people worship God at this point? How much scripture did the author and readers have access to? What other religions and worldviews were influencing the people?

WHAT ARE THE KEYS TO INTERPRETATION?

PART 3

COMPARISON

- The greatest interpreter of Scripture is Scripture itself
- The more you compare Scripture with Scripture, the more the meaning of the Bible becomes apparent
- The parts take on meaning in light of the whole
- Although the Bible has 40 different human authors, the 66 books are ultimately the result of one primary author - the Holy Spirit, who coordinated the entire message His book is integrated.
- Keep putting things together so you come up with a fully-orbed understanding of scripture

The value of a **CONCORDANCE** - a tool that enables you to look up terms and concepts from one book of a Bible to the next

- You can put things together that appears isolated
- They take on greater meaning in relation to each other

BELIEVE *have faith, trust*

he b-d in the LORD	Gen 15:6
did not b in God	Ps 78:22
you b that I am able	Matt 9:28
ask in prayer, b-ing	Matt 21:22
repent and b	Mark 1:15
they b-d...Scripture	John 2:22
whoever b-s in Him	John 3:16
will you b My words	John 5:47
who b-s has eternal	John 6:47
men will b in Him	John 11:48
b in the light	John 12:36
not see, and yet b-d	John 20:29
B in the Lord Jesus	Acts 16:31
Abraham b-d God	Rom 4:3
how shall they b	Rom 10:14
love...b-s all	1 Cor 13:7
whom I have b-d	2 Tim 1:12
comes to God must b	Heb 11:6
demons also b	James 2:19
do not b every spirit	1 John 4:1

The word "believe" is prominent in the Gospel of John

WHAT ARE THE KEYS TO INTERPRETATION?

PART 4 CULTURE

You have to see the Bible against the right background to capture its meaning.

RUTH

The story of Ruth happens during the time of Judges - when everyone did what was right in their own eyes. During these dark days, Ruth stands out like a bright light, clinging to God when others didn't.



THE LAST SUPPER

Most will think of Leonardo da Vinci's famous painting... but it's incorrect.

- They didn't sit... they reclined
- They weren't all on the same side... they were probably in a circle
- It wasn't daytime... it was night

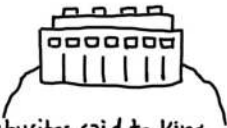


PSALM 24

At Jebus there was a fortress and the Jebusites said to King David, "You will not get in here."

Nevertheless, David captured the fortress and made Jebus, now known as Jerusalem, the capital city.

So when the Ark of the Covenant was brought in, they sang, "Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in" (Psalm 24:7)



1 CORINTHIANS 8

In Corinth, the best meats in town were the ones offered to idols. Paul knew idols were false gods and had no power, so he was fine eating meat sacrificed to idols. But to a new convert from Corinth, it could pose a problem. Therefore Paul said to be mindful not to make a younger believer stumble and fall into sin.



WHAT ARE THE KEYS TO INTERPRETATION?

PART 5

CONSULTATION

Thousands of people have walked this road before us and some have left valuable helps. Never forget the order: first the text of Scripture, then secondary sources.

CONCORDANCES

- Like an index to the Bible
- Lists all the words alphabetically with its reference
- Used for word studies or to locate a passage when you can't remember its reference
- Get an exhaustive concordance not an abridged one

BIBLE DICTIONARIES

- Provides helpful information on subjects of a text
- Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words
- The New International Bible Dictionary by Douglas

BIBLE HANDBOOKS

- Sort of a one-volume encyclopedia
- Eerdmans Handbook to the Bible
- The Baker Illustrated Guide to Everyday Life in Bible Times

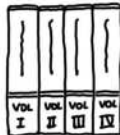
ATLASES

- It fills in the story behind the places mentioned in the Bible
- A good study Bible will have maps included in the back but it's best to get a comprehensive atlas
- Moody Atlas of the Bible
- Zondervan Pictorial Bible Atlas
- Macmillan Bible Atlas



BIBLE COMMENTARIES

- Insights of someone who has spent time studying the text.
- An excellent means of evaluating your own study
- If you are just starting, get a good single-volume general commentary
- Bible Knowledge Commentary
- Expositor's Bible Commentary
- The NIJ Application Commentary



HOW DO I MAKE SENSE OUT OF SCRIPTURE? PART I

The most important thing you've learned to do is to look for terms.

A term is a key word or phrase that an author uses to make his point.

He may use the word repeatedly to give it emphasis.

He may place it on display in some prominent verse.

TERM

He may build a story around it to illustrate its significance.

He may put it in the mouth of a central character in his narrative.

An author wants you to pay attention to his terms because they are filled with meaning.

Unless you "come to terms with the terms," you'll never understand his message.

HOW DO I MAKE SENSE OUT OF SCRIPTURE? PART 2

Say you want to research the word JOY in the book of Philippians since the author, Paul, uses it frequently.

Then go to BLUELETTERBIBLE.ORG

First, look up the word in a CONCORDANCE

always offering prayer with j in	Php 1:4	5479
your progress and j in the faith	Php 1:25	5479
make my j complete by being of the	Php 2:2	5479
and share my j with you all.	Php 2:17	4796
same way and share your j with me.	Php 2:18	4796
receive him in the Lord with all j	Php 2:29	5479
I long to see, my j and crown,	Php 4:1	5479

joy	5479	χαρά chara
-----	------	---------------

Lesson // Strong's 5479 // joy	
χαρά	
Transliteration	Pronunciation
chara	khá-'rā (kay)
Part of Speech	Root Word (Etymology)
feminine noun	From χαίρω (G5483)

Outline of Biblical Usage [?]	
I. joy, gladness	
A. the joy received from you	
B. the cause or occasion of joy	
i. of persons who are one's joy	

share my joy	PHRASE	54796	συγχαίρω sygchairō
--------------	--------	-------	-----------------------

Lesson // Strong's 54796 // joy	
συγχαίρω	
Transliteration	Pronunciation
sygchairō	sūn-khā-rō (Key)
Part of Speech	Root Word (Etymology)
verb	From σύν (G4852) and χαίρω (G5483)

Outline of Biblical Usage [?]	
I. to rejoice with, take part in another's joy	
II. to rejoice together, to congratulate	

These numbers are paired to Strong's Concordance which will give you the definition of the word

HOW DO I MAKE SENSE OUT OF SCRIPTURE?

PART 3

Act 1:8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

What if you wanted to understand what the use of "earth" meant?

At BLUELETTERBIBLE.ORG, it is paired with Strong's # 1093

of the earth PHRASE G1093 γῆ
gē

You find the correct reference.

Lexicon Strong's G1093 - γῆ

γῆ	
Transliteration	Pronunciation
gē	gā' (Key)

Looking further you find there are five definitions. But which is the correct one?

Outline of Biblical Usage [?]

- I. arable land
- II. the ground, the earth as a standing place
- III. the main land as opposed to the sea or water
- IV. the earth as a whole
 - A. the earth as opposed to the heavens
 - B. the inhabited earth, the abode of men and animals
- V. a country, land enclosed within fixed boundaries, a tract of land, territory, region

b. the inhabited earth, the abode of men and animals: Luke 21:35; Acts 1:8; Acts 10:12; Acts 11:10; Acts 17:36; Hebrews 11:13; Revelation 3:10; αἰθρῶν ζωῆν τινοῦ or ἐνὰ ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς, Acts 8:33; Acts 22:22; κληρονομεῖν τὴν γῆν (see κληρονομέω, 2), Matthew 5:5 (Matthew 5:4); πῦρ βάλλειν ἐπὶ [Rec. εἰς] τὴν γῆν, i. e. among men, Luke 12:49, cf. Luke 12:51 and Matthew 10:34; ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς among men, Luke 18:8; John 17:4.

Looking further, you find the Acts 1:8 meaning "earth" means "the inhabited earth."

HOW DO WE FIGURE OUT FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE? PART I

Look out for
the dogs!
(False teachers)
Philippians 3:2

Paul



He who meditates
on God's law is
like a tree planted
by streams of
water.
psalm 1:3

King David

- How are we to interpret figurative language in our Bible study process?
- How do we know when to read the Bible literally and when to read it figuratively?
- "Literal interpretation" - taking the language in its normal sense.

BUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE
"PLAIN SENSE" DOES NOT MAKE SENSE?

- 1 Use the literal sense unless there is some good reason not to
- 2 Use the figurative sense when the passage tells you to do so
- 3 Use the figurative sense if a literal meaning is impossible or absurd

- 4 Use the figurative sense if a literal meaning would involve something immoral
- 5 Use the figurative sense if the expression is an obvious figure of speech

HOW DO WE FIGURE OUT FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE? PART 2

WE'RE USED TO FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

"I could have died of embarrassment"

"She is as mad as a hornet"

"I guess I'll have to face the music"

"He was bored to tears"

"Don't let the cat out of the bag"

"She has a green thumb"



"Go and tell that fox, Herod..."
Luke 13:32

"you scribes and Pharisees are like whitewashed tombs."
Matthew 23:27

"James and John are the sons of Thunder"
Mark 3:17

BUT HOW DO WE CORRECTLY INTERPRET FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE BIBLE?

6 Use the figurative sense if a literal interpretation goes contrary to the context and scope of the passage.

7 Use the figurative if the literal interpretation goes contrary to the general character and style of the book.

8 Use the figurative sense if a literal interpretation goes contrary to the plan and purpose of the author.

9 Use the figurative sense if a literal interpretation involves a contradiction of other scripture

10 Use the figurative sense if a literal interpretation would involve a contradiction in doctrine

FIGURES OF SPEECH IN THE BIBLE, PART I

1 ANTHROPOMORPHISM

The attribution of human features or actions to God

"The Lord's hand is not so that it cannot save" (Isaiah 59:1).

4 HYPERBOLE

Exaggeration to say more than is literally meant

"I robbed other churches, taking wages from them to serve you"
(2 Corinthians 11:8).

2 APOSTROPHE

Addressing a thing as if it were a person, or an absent or imaginary person as if he were present

"O death, where is your victory?
O death, where is your sting?"
(1 Corinthians 15:55)

5 HYPOCATASTASIS

A comparison in which likeness is implied rather than stated directly

"Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy"
(Luke 12:1).

3 EUPHEMISM

The use of a less offensive expression to indicate a more offensive one

"Would that those who are troubling you would even mutilate themselves" (Galatians 5:12).

6 IDIOM

An expression peculiar to a particular people

"And Samson said, 'I will go in to my wife in her room.'
(Judges 15:1)

FIGURES OF SPEECH IN THE BIBLE, PART 2

7

MERISM

A substitution of two contrasting or opposite parts for the whole.

"You know when I sit and when I rise" (Psalm 139:2).

10

PERSONIFICATION

Ascribing human characteristics or actions to inanimate objects or animals.

"The moon will be dismayed, the sun ashamed" (Isaiah 24:23).

8

METAPHOR

A comparison in which one thing represents another:

"You are the light of the world"
(Matthew 5:14).

11

RHETORICAL QUESTION

A question that requires no response, yet forces one to answer mentally and consider its ramifications.

"Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?"
(Romans 6:1)

9

PARADOX

A statement that seems absurd, self-contradictory, or contrary to logical thought.

"Whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; whoever loses his life for my sake shall find it" (Mt. 16:25).

12

SIMILE

A comparison using "like" or "as."

"He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water"
(Psalm 1:3).

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER, PART I

When you see the word "therefore," ask what is it there for?

Summary of Romans

Because of this: { Ch. 1-8 The righteousness of God that must be received
Ch. 9-11 The righteousness of God that was rejected by Israel
Therefore this: Ch. 12-16 The righteousness of God must be reproduced in a believer's life

I urge you therefore brethren,

ROMANS 12:1

KEY TERM

Like an Old Testament sacrifice

by the mercies of God

→ This phrase summarizes the first 11 chapters

to present your bodies

← On the basis of what God has done, Paul exhorts us to do this

To give and not take back

a living and holy sacrifice,

"Living" & "sacrifice" sounds contradictory

This is in the aorist tense which indicates decisiveness

acceptable to God

← This is the most logical thing to do in light of what God has done for us

which is your spiritual service of worship.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER, PART 2

BIBLE DICTIONARY:

The idea of pouring something into a mold

Don't take on the shape of the world!

ROMANS 12:2

And do not be **conformed** to this world

Indicates contrast

but be transformed

Indicates a metamorphosis, a complete makeover

This is a passive verb - God is doing the transforming

by the renewing of your mind,

this is an active verb - our job is to renew our minds

To test or to approve

that you may **prove** what the will of God is,

that which is **good**

Good is a reflection of God

and **acceptable**

There is nothing to add or take away

and **perfect.**

This is a reflection of God's character

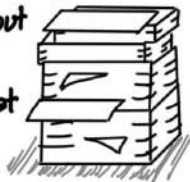
DON'T STOP AT INTERPRETATION!

The majority of people who study the Scriptures get logjammed in the step of INTERPRETATION



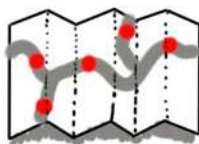
In the first place, they begin there, which is a major mistake. Then they stop there, which is even a bigger mistake

The result is that they acquire mountains of data about the text and lots of speculation about what the data means



The Word of God does not bear fruit when it is understood, only when it is applied.

But what difference does it make in their lives? The Bible becomes little more than a collection of theological brainteasers rather than a roadmap on how to live.



Humbly accept the Word planted in you.

(1:21)

Jamel



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

(1:22)

FIVE SUBSTITUTES FOR APPLICATION

What happens when you fail to apply scripture?

1 WE SUBSTITUTE INTERPRETATION FOR APPLICATION

- The moment you know God's truth, the ball is in your court; you are responsible for putting it into action
- "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord' and do not do what I say?"



2 WE SUBSTITUTE SUPERFICIAL OBEDIENCE FOR SUBSTANTIVE LIFE CHANGE

- Applying biblical truth to areas where we're already applying it, not to new areas where we're not applying it.
- Result: no noticeable change in our lives with many blindspots



3 WE SUBSTITUTE RATIONALIZATION FOR REPENTANCE

- The moment truth gets too close, too convicting an alarm goes off and we start to defend ourselves.
- Our favorite strategy is to rationalize sin instead of repenting of it.



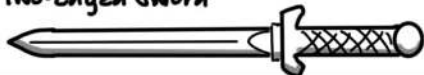
4 WE SUBSTITUTE AN EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCE FOR A VOLITIONAL DECISION

- We study the Word of God and we emotte under impact, but we make new real change.
- If all we do is sob a few mournful prayers, then go on our way without altering our behavior, then our spirituality boils down to an emotional experience.



5 WE SUBSTITUTE COMMUNICATION FOR TRANSFORMATION

- We think if we can speak eloquently or convincingly about a point of scripture, we're covered.
- But nothing can be hidden from God.
- The Word of God is sharper than a two-edged sword



HOW DOES THE WORD OF GOD TRANSFORM OUR LIVES?

1 COME

- We come to the Word by the means of the first two steps:
 1. OBSERVATION - What does it say?
 2. INTERPRETATION - What does it mean?
- If you've done a thorough OBSERVATION, your INTERPRETATION will be correct.
- There is only one ultimate INTERPRETATION of Scripture, but many APPLICATION

3 CONVINCING

- God's Word shows God's provision for the conviction which convinces us to walk in the newness of life
- The Bible tells us what we need to start doing and in what direction we need to be going
- Sometimes the Bible tells us how through direct application as in Paul's letters. Other times it's through an example like Joseph or Daniel.

2 CONVICTION

- We are reproved and corrected when truth is revealed
- Scripture reflects a picture of ourselves
- The Word highlights our sin and what we need to stop doing
- Diagnosing the disease is the first step in curing it
- Self-righteous facade needs to break

4 CONVERSION

- We begin to live differently as a result of our expose to God's Word.
- That transformation begins the moment we trust Jesus with our lives.
- True conversion is not a one-time event; it's an on-going process of becoming more and more like Christ. That process doesn't end until we go to be with Christ
- It's not just a change of behavior but a change of heart.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE TRANSFORMED?

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Eph. 4:10

WORKMANSHIP

- Refers to a "made thing" or a "crafted thing"
- A thing a craftsperson carefully designed and put together
- Each one of us is God's masterpiece, an intentional creation that God Himself has fashioned
- The idea of functionality

GOOD WORKS

- This is related to the nature of the workmanship that God has made
- Each piece of workmanship has specific good works that it was designed to do
- It was made to do a specific task
- What did God design you to do best?

BEFOREHAND

- When is this referring to?
 - Before we were saved?
 - Before we were born?
 - Before the world was made?
- At some point, God determined that He wanted certain good works carried out during our lifetime
- To that end He created you - perfectly suited to the "good works" for which He made you

} All
3

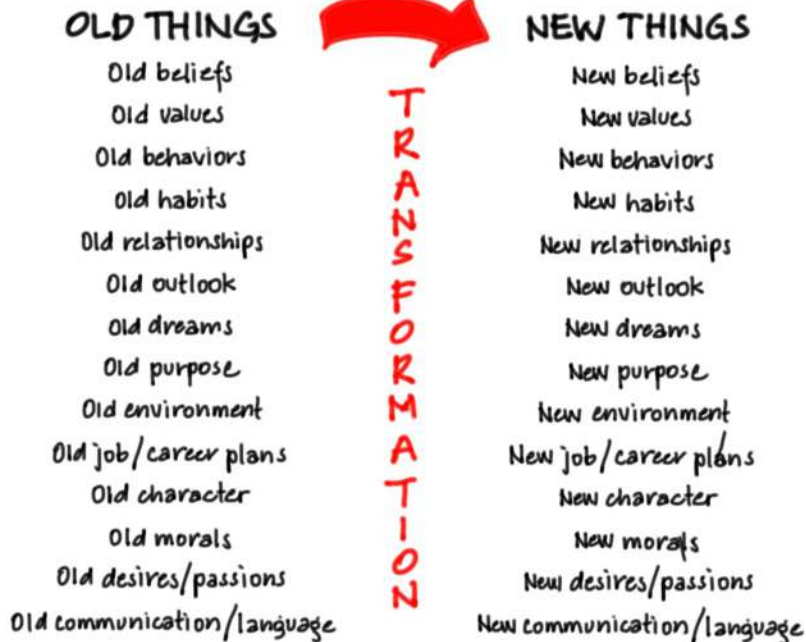
WALK

- You are to walk in those good works
- "Walk means to live; it refers to daily life - at work, at home, in your community"
- Every day you need to be pursuing the purpose for which God put you on the planet
- God wants you to carry out His purpose for you every day, and in the everyday events of life

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE TRANSFORMED?

"If any man is in Christ, he is a new creature;
the old things passed away; behold, new things have come."

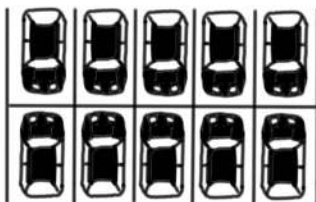
2 Corinthians 5:17



IS THE BIBLE ALL ABOUT ME?



"Lord, I really need a parking space because the Bible says ...



'My God shall supply all your needs' (Philippians 4:19)

Please help me find a parking space right now."

IS THIS WHAT PAUL HAD IN MIND WHEN HE WROTE THIS?



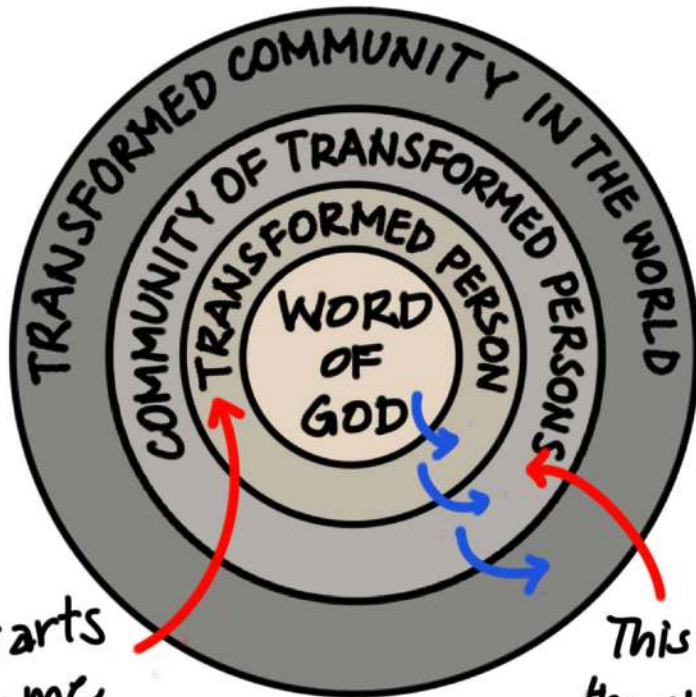
- Paul was writing from a Roman jail
- Philippian believers had sent Paul a gift, possibly money
- Philippian believers probably didn't have much to begin with
- Paul thanked them and assured them ...

"My God shall supply all your needs"

**THE WORD APPLIES TO ME
BUT IS NOT CENTERED
AROUND ME**

**IT'S NOT ABOUT ME...
IT'S ABOUT GOD!**

HOW CAN I BRING ABOUT CHANGE IN MY SOCIETY?



It starts
with me

This is
the church

HOW CAN I APPLY SCRIPTURE TO MY LIFE?

1 KNOW

- Know the text
 - Observation
 - Interpretation
 - Application
- Know yourself
 - What are your assets?
 - What are your liabilities?



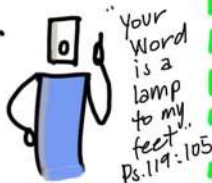
2 RELATE

- A new relationship with God
- A new relationship to yourself
- A new relationship to others
- A new relationship with the enemy



3 MEDITATE

- Pondering the truth with a view to letting it help and readjust our lives.
- The key to spiritual prosperity is to meditate on God's Word day and night.
- Memorization will help your meditation



4 PRACTICE

- Ask yourself... Is there some area of my life for which this truth is needed?
- Your hunger for the Word will be in direct proportion to your obedience to it.

THE MORE YOU UNDERSTAND IT

THE MORE YOU USE IT

HOW DOES OUR INDIVIDUALITY AFFECT APPLICATION?

Interpretation is one
Application is many

OUR EDUCATION

- Everybody learns differently
- Reading & memorizing
 - Doing & trying
 - Participation in a group, etc.



Peter:
• Learned by doing...
cast a fishing net,
walked on water



Paul
• Learned by studying...
excelled in Judaism,
wrote letters

OUR EXECUTION

People will execute commands differently
"Go and make disciples..."

- Some will do that by **TEACHING**
- Some will do that by **MENTORING**
- Some will do that by **EVANGELIZING**
- Some will do that by **CULTIVATING LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS**
- Some will do that by **INTRODUCING FRIENDS TO EVANGELISTS**



OUR EMPHASIS

- Different kinds of giftedness will emphasize different things
- Doctors will notice things about healings
 - Event planners will notice things about plans
 - Systems people will notice how things are connected
 - Psychologists will notice human dynamics and emotions

OUR EXCELLENCE

- We will tend to excel in our areas of strength
- If relationships and dealing with people come naturally to us, applying 1Pet. 3:8 is easy - "be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kind-hearted, and humble."
 - **BUT** it may be a struggle for someone who is shy and reserved. Although 1Pet. 3:8 still applies, that person will go about it differently.
 - **THEREFORE** be gracious in allowing others to follow Jesus the way they were designed.

WHAT QUESTIONS SHOULD I ASK FOR APPLICATION? PART I

① IS THERE AN EXAMPLE FOR ME TO FOLLOW?

• Much of the Bible is biographical by design

• When Abraham finds out Sodom and Gomorrah will be destroyed he prays for the wicked cities.



• Am I praying for mercy on the wicked?

② IS THERE A SIN TO AVOID?

• The Bible raises your level of consciousness in regard to moral issues.

• When you start a relationship with Jesus and read your Bible, you will begin to understand what pleases God and how to align your life to Him.

③ IS THERE A PROMISE TO CLAIM?

• God's Word is filled with promises that are made by the Person who does not lie.

• However, we cannot claim promises that haven't been made to us such as those to the nation of Israel.

④ IS THERE A PRAYER TO REPEAT?

- Abraham's prayer for Sodom & Gomorrah
- Nehemiah's prayer for Jerusalem
- David's prayer of confession
- Jonah's prayer in the big fish
- Mary's prayer of praise
- Jesus' prayer in the Garden
- The Lord's prayer
- Hannah's prayer of thanksgiving



What is there in these prayers that I need to be praying?

⑤ IS THERE A COMMAND TO OBEY?

• The Bible is filled with potent, clear-cut commands.

• In the book of **JAMES** there are commands alone

54

• There are applicational sections in Paul's epistles

- Romans 12-15
- Ephesians 4-6
- Galatians 5-6
- Colossians 3-4

WHAT QUESTIONS SHOULD I ASK FOR APPLICATION? PART 2

6 IS THERE A CONDITION TO MEET?

- Some of the promises of God are based on conditions set forth in the text

Jesus said, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you." (Jn. 15:7)



7 IS THERE A VERSE TO MEMORIZE?

- Launch a Bible memorization program like the Topical Memory System
- Memorize large portions of the Word. You can memorize entire chapters
 - Psalm 1
 - Isaiah 53
 - John 14

"Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked."
Ps. 1:1



8 IS THERE AN ERROR TO MARK?

There has been a loss of basic theological & doctrinal knowledge

As you investigate God's Word...

- What doctrines and truths is this passage teaching?
- What theological errors is it exposing?
- What changes do I need to make in my thinking in order to bring it in line with what the Bible teaches?

9 IS THERE A CHALLENGE TO FACE?

Sometimes the Holy Spirit will prompt you to act on the basis of what you read in the Bible

- A relationship that needs healing
- An apology to be made
- Get out of something that draws you away from God
- A habit you need to start

HOW CAN I APPLY AN ANCIENT TEXT TO TODAY'S CULTURE? PART I

We need to understand our culture. What influences our world today? Where is biblical truth needed the most?



① POWER ↔ ② COMMUNICATION ③ MONEY/ECONOMICS

- Where are the centers of power?
- Who is in charge?
- How do they gain control?
- How do they hold sway?
- Who makes decisions at the local level?

- What are the means of communication?
- How is news & information distributed?
- Who controls the media?
- How is credibility determined?



- What place does money have in the culture's values?
- How do people earn a living?
- What goods are exchanged?
- What are the means of transportation?

④ ETHNICITY ⑤ GENDER ⑥ GENERATIONS

- What people make up the culture?
- Where did they come from?
- What history and values do they bring?
- What racial barriers and problems are there?
- Who is at the top/bottom?

- What are the roles of men and women?
- What about those who don't relate to fe/male?
- How do genders relate?
- What problems confront gender?



- What value does the culture place on family?
- How are families structured?
- Who are the key families?
- Where do they live?
- What are their histories?
- How are young people educated & socialized?

HOW CAN I APPLY AN ANCIENT TEXT TO TODAY'S CULTURE? PART 2

We need to understand our culture. What influences our world today? Where is biblical truth needed the most?



7 RELIGION/ WORLDVIEW

- What are the dominant religions?
- What are their histories?
- Which groups are growing the fastest?
- Why are they growing?

8 THE ARTS

- What kind of art is the culture producing?
- What is the art saying about the people in the culture?
- What place is given to the artist?

9 HISTORY/TIME

- What legends/myths have been passed down?
- What stories are told and retold?
- Who writes the histories?
- How is time measured?
- What stories aren't told?

10 PLACE



- Where is the culture situated geographically?
- What topographic and climatic factors influence day-to-day life?
- How mobile is the society in comparison to other societies?
- How long do families live in one place?
- What people have been displaced?

11 RESOURCES



- What natural resources (water, oil, natural gas) does the society possess?
- How much is there?
- Who has access to and control of these resources?
- What things need to be imported?
- How much of the society has access to electricity? Internet?

PRINCIPLES THAT GOVERN PRINCIPLES

A principle is a succinct statement of a universal truth

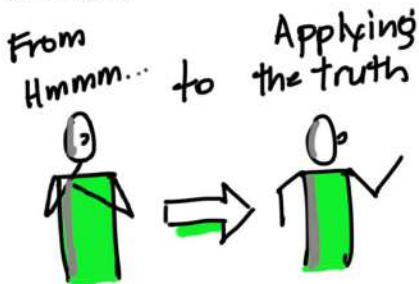
- ① PRINCIPLES SHOULD CORRELATE WITH THE GENERAL TEACHING OF SCRIPTURE



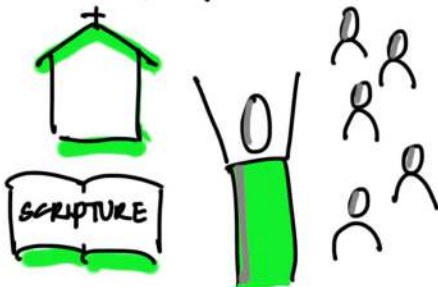
- ② PRINCIPLES SHOULD SPEAK TO THE NEEDS, INTERESTS, QUESTIONS, AND PROBLEMS OF REAL LIFE



- ③ PRINCIPLES SHOULD INDICATE A COURSE OF ACTION



- ④ PRINCIPLES SHOULD BE SUPPORTED BY OTHER GODLY PEOPLE



WHERE DO I BEGIN?

1 MAKE A DECISION TO CHANGE

- Make up your mind!



I'm going to do this!

• Determine what sort of change you need to make and choose to pursue it

- How will you be different?

3 FOLLOW THROUGH

Get started!



Make that call!

Send that note!



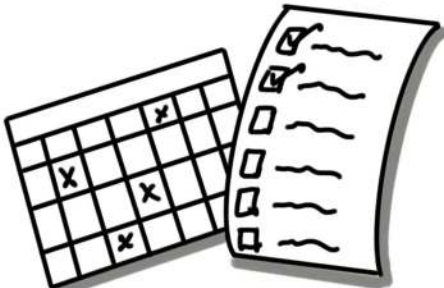
Memorize that verse!

#58



2 COME UP WITH A PLAN

- Calendar it!
- Put it on a checklist!



REMEMBER...

"FOR IT IS GOD WHO IS AT WORK IN YOU, BOTH TO WILL AND TO WORK FOR HIS GOOD PLEASURE." PHILIPPIANS 2:13

As you

- set your objectives
- Make plans
- Carry them out

GOD IS
RIGHT THERE
WITH YOU

SUGGESTIONS TO GET STARTED, PART I

In 20 years, what will you wish you had done today?

DO IT NOW!!!

① DETERMINE YOUR OBJECTIVES

- Do I want to have a personal Bible study program?
- Have I seen the crucial need for one?
- Will this fulfill me?



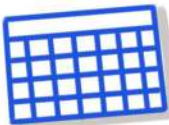
② ESTABLISH YOUR PRIORITIES

- How badly do I want it?
- What price am I willing to pay?
- What am I willing to let go?



③ SET A SCHEDULE

- What do I need to do to accomplish my objectives and priorities?
- Setting a schedule is not there to hurt you but to help you



④ DEVELOP DISCIPLINE

- Many of us are expecting God to do what He is expecting us to do.
- You have to decide if you really want to get into God's Word



SUGGESTIONS TO GET STARTED, PART 2



Where do I begin?

"Maybe I should start
with the book of Isaiah?"



Probably not. Try a smaller book like



4 chapters
104 verses

Philippians
or
James

5 chapters
108 verses



From the Old Testament try



Easy-to-
follow
storyline

Jonah
or
Nehemiah

Principles
for organization
and
administration

