



Life Practices

Lesson #3 Learning the Word of God-Application

A Bit of a Review

Utilizing an Inductive Bible Study process, we are learning how to answer three questions:

Observation: What does it say? (Review the four “W”s)

Interpretation: What does it mean? (Review the five “C”s)

Application: What does it mean to me? The process of putting into practice what we have learned.

I. Introduction

Remember:

1. The Bible is primarily about God, not us! It reveals His nature, character, purposes and so on. It tells His story.
2. The Bible was written to others, but of course, it speaks to us! “The Bible is about God, but draws you in. Your challenge is always to reapply the Scripture afresh, because God’s purpose is always to rescript your life.” (Joe Carter)

The goal is transformation. We are learning about the steps of spiritual formation. We want to move from being spectators to students, from passive hearers to participating learners, from folks who cut flowers to those who learn how to grow plants.

3. The Bible was written for our instruction. Take a look at Rom. 15:4, Deut. 29:29 and I Cor. 10:11
4. The Bible is ENOUGH. According to II Tim. 3:16 it is God breathed and useful for: teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness with the goal that the servant of God will be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

II. Step #3: Application

The difference between Interpretation and Application:

Interpretation is the action of explaining the meaning of something. Application is the action of putting something into operation.



There is only ONE interpretation, but there may be many applications. “Whatever it means, it will mean that forever. But the process of application never ceases.” (Howard Hendricks)

Example: Gen. 39-Joseph and Potiphar’s wife

Observation: _____

Interpretation: _____

Application: _____

III. Applying God’s Word to our lives involves:

A. Knowing the scripture

Review the content, context, details.

Note where there is a direct command (_____), some general truths to be obeyed (_____), some less directly applicable passages (like _____ or _____)

B. Relating to the scripture

Studying God’s Word will present you with new “relationships:”

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Studying God’s Word will:

1. Expose your _____
2. Reveal God’s _____ and _____
3. Provide you with _____ to follow or avoid.

C. Meditating on the Scripture

Meditation requires memorization. Some strategies that will help:

Start with something that speaks to you now. Start small. Read and read the passage. Listen to the verse. Write it out. Say it out loud. Incorporate it into a prayer. Post it everywhere. Use music or art or make it into a game. Repeat, repeat, repeat!



D. Practice, Practice, Practice

While we study a particular passage, there some great **Questions to Ask:**

1. Is there an _____ for me to follow?
2. Is there a _____ to avoid?
3. Is there a _____ to claim?
4. Is there a _____ to repeat?
5. Is there a _____ to obey?
6. Is there a _____ to meet?
7. Is there a _____ to memorize?
8. Is there a _____ to face?

V. **Getting Started**

1. Make the decision to study God's Word for yourself.
2. Lay out a plan. Determine a schedule, set aside a specific time and a specific place for your study.
3. Make yourself accountable to someone else. It will help with your self-discipline.
4. Start this week!

V. **Resources to Consider:**

Use a Study Bible:

- Ryrie Study bible (Moody)
- NIV Study Bible (Zondervan)
- Application Study Bible (Tyndale)



The Swindoll Study Bible (Tyndale)
MacArthur Study Bible (Thomas Nelson)

Topical Memory System (Navigators)

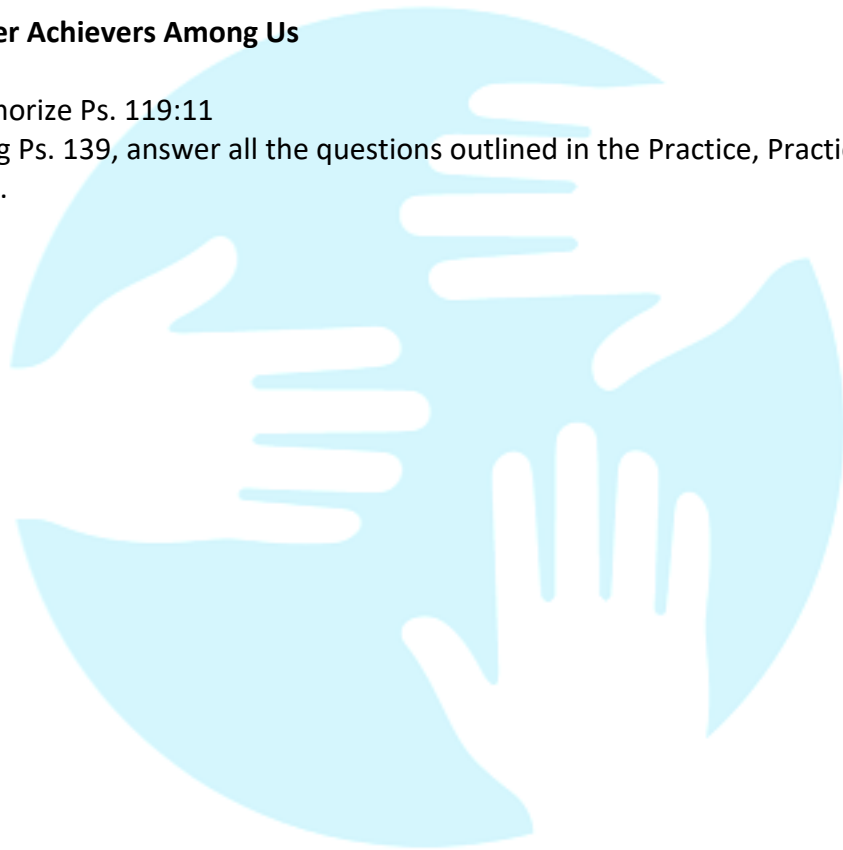
On Line tools:

Scripture Typer (an app)
Bible Me (website)

VI. For the Over Achievers Among Us

A. Memorize Ps. 119:11

B. Using Ps. 139, answer all the questions outlined in the Practice, Practice, Practice section.



Sherry Worel
sworel@stoneybrooke.com
sherryworel.com