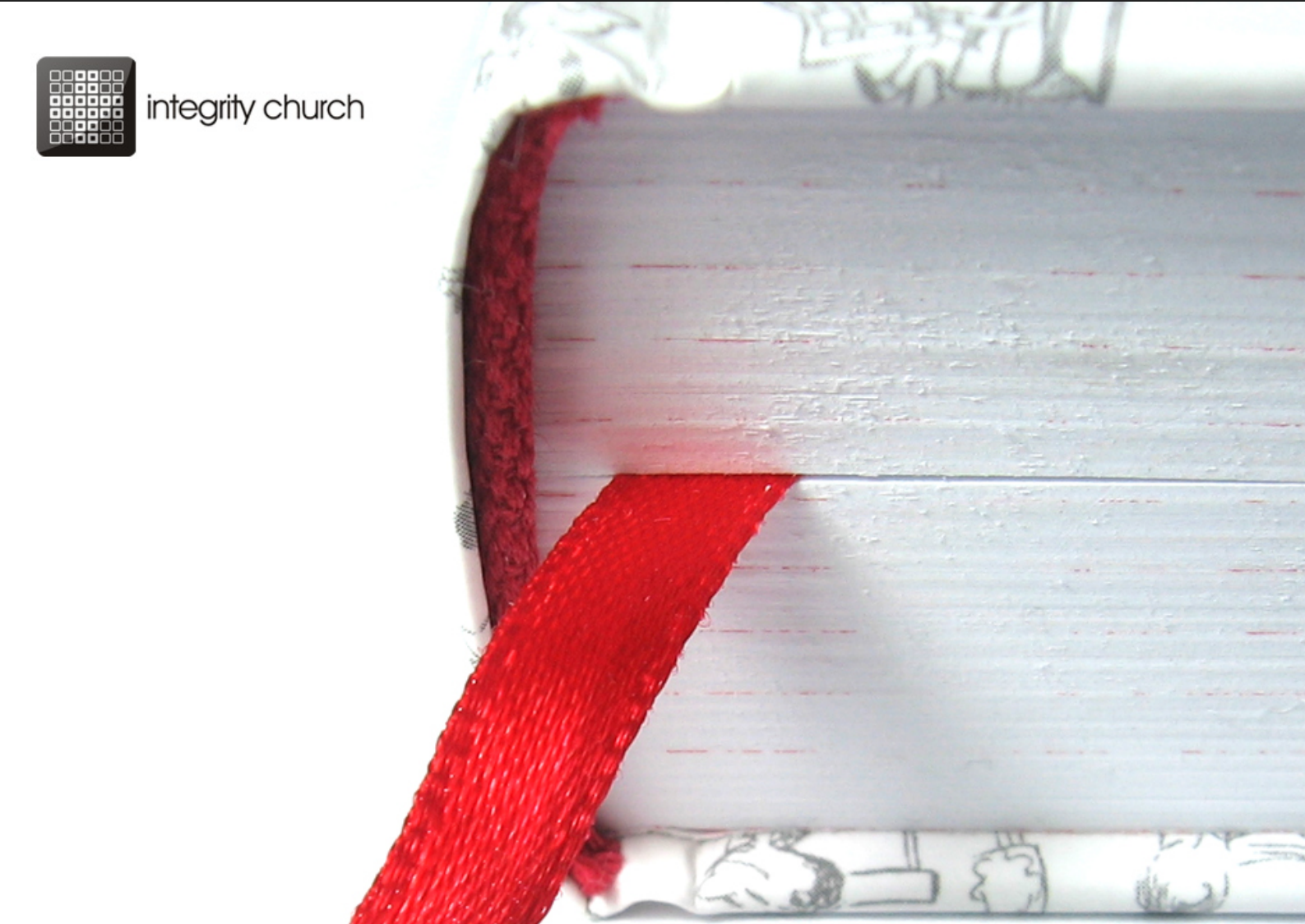


summer
2010

EVANGEL
CLASSES



integrity church



how to READ THE BIBLE

CONTENT

Theme of the
Scriptures 3

Finding Christ in the
Scriptures 9

Applying Christ in the
Scriptures 15

Simple
Hermeneutics 21

theme of Scripture

“The gospel is integrally tied to the Bible’s story-line. Indeed, it is incomprehensible without understanding that story-line.”
- D.A. Carson

What were we made for?

To know God.

What aim should we have in life?

To know God.

What is the eternal life that Jesus gives?

To know God.

What is the best thing in life?

To know God.

What in humans gives God most pleasure?

Knowledge of himself.

- J.I. Packer

Theme of Scripture

1 Thess. 5:19-22; Eph. 4:13-16

1. How are we led by the Holy Spirit?

2. How to we avoid quenching the Holy Spirit?

3. Why is theology important?

4. What does it mean to “grow up” (Eph.4)?

5. What is worship? And how does knowing God affect the way we worship?

How are we deceived?

Adam and Eve

- Ephesians 4:14... craftiness and deceit.
- God gives man his first commandment. Therefore, man has 1 verse to memorize (Genesis 2:16-17).
- Satan tempted Eve by questioning God's authority (Genesis 3:1-5).
- Note the language satan uses "*Did God really say...*"

Temptation of Jesus

- Luke 4:1-13 satan tempts Jesus to sin.
- Satan tempts Jesus in every way (v.13)

*Satan tempts Jesus by using
three primary methods:*

- 1) He questions Jesus being the Son of God (v.3, 9)
- 2) He mocks God's authority (v.6)
- 3) He distorts the Word of God (v.11-12)

**Did God
really say...?**

beginning
with this
Scripture
he told
him the
good
news
about
Jesus
acts 8:35

Why should we know the Scriptures?

- Phillip shows us a great example to this question (Acts 8:26-40).
- Phillip meets a man who is trying to be religious.
- The man is reading the Old Testament and wants to know its meaning.
- What does Phillip do with this text of Scripture that this man wants to know more about?

What's it all about?

- The Bible is a book about God and how to know Him through the person of Jesus Christ.

Don't be confused by bad analogies:

"it's our road map to life"

"it's our instruction manual for life"

"it's our Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth"

"it's our war manual"

The Bible is a Christ-centered book:

- The Old Testament prepares us for His coming.
- The Gospels show us his life, death and resurrection.
- The rest of the New Testament is about his church and a glimpse of his 2nd coming.

Ask the right questions

- Many Bible studies fail by not asking the right questions.
- The first questions that many will ask is *“what does this mean and how can I apply it to my life”*. Questions like these can force us to over-personalize the passage and create a man-centered application. Thus creating a *“find the right verse to fix this immediate problem”* mentality.

Here’s are questions to consider:

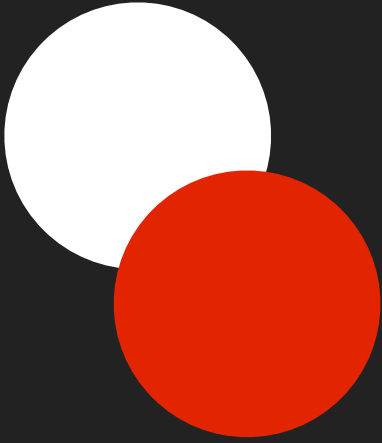
- *What does this passage say about God?*
- *How has Christ fulfilled this passage?*
- *How does the Gospel create change?*

Homework:

Read Philippians 2 and try this method.

What does
this passage
say about
God?

Notes:



finding CHRIST

“All heros are
shadows of Christ.”
- John Piper

You

search the

Scriptures

because you

think that in

them you have

eternal life;

and it is they

that bear

witness about

me

john 5:39

Finding Christ

Luke 24:25,30 John 5:39

1. All of scripture is about the person of Jesus.
2. You miss the point of scripture if you read it as things you need to do.
3. As we read scripture we are reminded of Jesus' work.
4. Jesus fulfills all of scripture.
5. All of scripture could be summed up in Luke 24:46, Jonah 2:9.
6. Jesus and the New Testament teach us to read the Bible this way.

Examples

Adam and Eve

- God's plan of salvation Genesis 3:15.
- How is Jesus the true and better Adam?
- Jesus was tested by the devil and proclaimed God's word.
- Jesus absolutely obeyed God even to the point of death on a cross.
- Jesus absorbed the promise of death and in his resurrection and restores the life that man lost in the fall.
- Through Adam, death reigns and through Jesus, we receive the gift of life (Romans 5).
- Jesus is the head of the new and true humanity (Romans 8).
- We are clothed again in Jesus' righteousness (2 Cor 5:21, Col 3:10).

He is the true
and better...

He who
did not
spare
his own
Son
but
gave
him up
for
us all
romans
8:32

Abraham

- Genesis 12 God's Promise and blessing through future offspring (Gal 3:16)

- In Christ, we receive the promises of Abraham (Gal 3:7),

-The gospel was preached to Abraham. It was counted to him by faith. Abraham looked to Jesus' coming. (Romans 4, Gal 3:7, John 8:56)

- In Genesis 15:1 God is the reward which we lost in the fall.

-How does the sacrifice of Isaac point us to Christ?

- God provides a substitute.

-Abraham did not have to spare his son but God did. God sacrificed his best/his firstborn (Romans 8:32).

-The very area of the sacrifice was the place where Jesus would cry *"My God, My God why have you forsaken me."*

-Abraham's cost was nothing but God's was infinite.

Psalm 22

We see a picture of the culmination of all of history --The historical event of the cross.

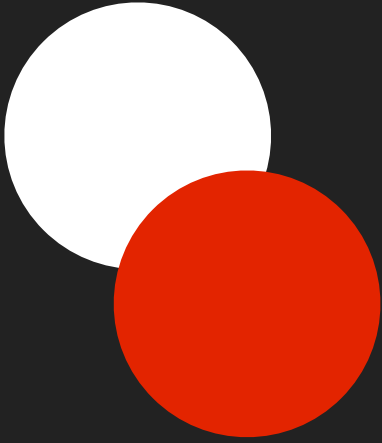
Biblical Theology

“Biblical theology enables us to discover how any bible text relates to ourselves. Because Christ is the fixed point of reference for theology, we are concerned with how the text relates to Christ and how we relate to Christ. Both questions direct us to the way Jesus understands the gospel. He saw it in terms of fulfillment of the Old Testament, and of the coming of the kingdom of God which demands our submission. Such a gospel points us to the dimensions of the bible of which biblical theology continually takes note. These are the literature or the words of the text, the history or biblical story and the revelation that is conveyed through these dimensions. Biblical theology begins with the word about Christ and seeks to understand how the New Testament’s testimony relates to all that God has revealed in the Old testament. Christ gives us the underlying pattern of biblical theology in that he reveals the central concern of the bible in the relationship of God to his creation, and in particular to mankind.”

Graeme Goldsworthy, According to Plan

Christ is the
fixed point of
reference...

Notes:



applying CHRIST

"Reminding ourselves of the
gospel is the most important
daily habit we can establish."
- C.J. Mahaney

the
mystery
hidden for the
ages and
generations
but now
revealed to his
saints
colossians
1:26

Applying Christ

Colossians 1:26

A. What we already have

1. Paul does not pray for the Colossians to have something they don't have

2. Christian growth happens when working in the reality of what you already have

3. We perform better when we better understand our relationship with God is based on Christ's performance.

4. All Failures in life are failure in applying the gospel.

B. Legalism Vs. Gospel

C. We preach to ourselves everyday.

1. We are both Justified and sinful

2. We must daily embrace the Gospel
(We are prone to wander)

**Preach the
Gospel to
yourself
everyday.**

We **never**
separate the
benefits
from the
benefactor

1 Corinthians 1:24

We never separate the benefits
(regeneration, justification,
sanctification) from Benefactor (Jesus)

Examples

Marriage

- **Old Testament** - Isaiah 54:5, Jeremiah 3:20.
Hosea, Isaiah 62:5
- **Jesus Christ** - Matthew 9:15
- **New Testament** - Ephesians 5:22-33

Giving

- **Old Testament** - Malachi 3:17, Genesis 15:1,
Exodus 33:15-16
- **Jesus Christ** - Matthew 13:44
- **New Testament** - 2 Corinthians 8:9

Suffering

- **Old Testament** - Psalm 32:1-2, 34:8-9, 37:39
- **Jesus Christ** - Matthew 5:1-12; 11:25-30;
21-23, Luke 13:4
- **New Testament** - Romans 5 Romans 8,
Hebrews 2:9; 4:15; 5:8;11,12.

Foundation of truth

1 Timothy 3:16, Luke 6:43

We come to worship as we read

“The doctrines of grace imprint on our consciousness the conceptual structures that reveal who God really is and who we really are and what he has done about that in grace. But we also need the Lord himself to touch us at a profound personal level, especially where we are most sinful and miserable.

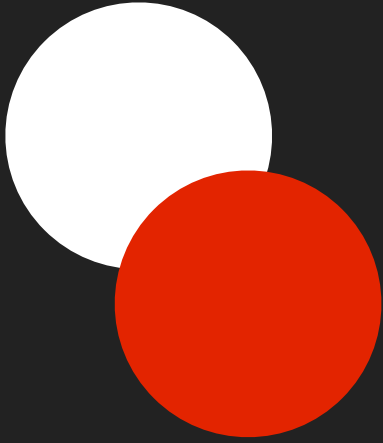
I don't change when gospel concepts start surprising me, wonderful and essential as that is. Gospel concepts spread the table, so to speak, for the feast of Christ himself, who fills me and heals me and energizes me. I change, really change, when I feel loved by him. I change when I feel accepted by him. I change when I feel set free by him. That goes beyond concepts. It is an experience. That experience follows the logical and psychological trajectory set by the doctrines. But what I need is the touch of Christ himself.

Through the ministry of the gospel, Jesus comes to us. He gets involved in our subjectivity. He opens the eyes of our hearts (Ephesians 1:18). He slakes the thirst of our souls (Psalm 34:8; 63:1). He tells our hearts that we belong to him (John 10:27). The fragrance of him spreads (2 Corinthians 2:14). The “senses of the soul,” if I may put it that way, come alive.

Let's keep pressing into the doctrines of the gospel. Let's also keep asking Jesus for his visitations at a deeper level, where we actually change.”

**I change,
really change,
when I feel
loved by Him.**

Notes:



simple hermeneutics

“ The hermeneutical question about the whole Bible correlates with the question, ‘What do you think of Christ?’ ”

- Graeme Goldsworthy

The Bible's purpose is not so much to show you how to live a good life. The Bible's purpose is to show you how

God's grace breaks into your life against your will and saves you from the sin and brokenness otherwise you would never be able to overcome...
tim keller

hermeneutics?

Hermeneutics as commonly understood, is the theory of biblical interpretation. Interpretation has been defined as the way of reading an old book that brings out its relevance for modern man. Biblical hermeneutics is the study of the theoretical principles involved in bringing out to this and every age the relevance of the Bible and its message. Evangelical practice over the centuries has reflected a view of the process of interpretation as involving three stages; exegesis, synthesis, and application.

- J.I. Packer

2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Timothy 3:16-17

1. The Holy Spirit inspired and enabled men to write God's Word.
2. The Bible is in no way subjective.
3. Why is it important to rightly interpret Scripture?

Helpful tips

In his 7 part audio series on Bible Interpretation , Wayne Grudem gives some great tips on interpreting Scripture *(you can find these on monergism.com):*

- Read it. You will best learn to interpret the Bible by reading it.
- There are no great secrets or mysteries. The authors intended for the Bible to be understood by the common person.
- Do word studies. Find the frequency of use of a word, its meaning in Hebrew or Greek, and how it is used in different contexts.
- Get the context of the entire book.
- Learn the meaning of the entire Bible and see its consistency.
- Don't waste too much time on historical context, but learn some of it to aide your study.
- Get the cultural context. Learn what kind of literature it is and who the audience was.
- Do what you can with the time you have.
- On commentaries, wrestle with the Scripture first, don't get the commentaries out until later.

Grudem also gives us four keys of interpretation to keep in mind:

- Read the text in light of its original meaning.
- Read the text in light of its intended application (both God's and the author's).
- Read it in light of what it tells you about God.
- Read it in light of what it tells you about Jesus.

why
did David
pick
up
5 stones?

Bad Ideas.*

Personalizing: Assuming that any or all parts of the Bible apply to you or your group in a way that they do not apply to everyone else.

Universalizing: Assuming that something unique or uncommon in the Bible applies to everyone equally. Also known as generalizing.

Spiritualizing: Assuming that events or factors have their real application in some religious truth beyond what they actually say.

Moralizing: Assuming that principles for living can be derived from all passages.

Exemplarizing: Assuming that because someone in the Bible did something, it is an example for us to follow.

Allegorizing: Assuming that the components of a passage have meaning only as symbols of Christian truths.

Typologizing: Assuming that certain real biblical characters or things are mentioned in order to foreshadow other real-and more important characters or things.

The Root Fallacy: Assuming that the/an original meaning of a word always attends its usage.

Genre confusion: Assuming that the interpretational rules for one genre apply to another.

Totality transfer: Assuming that all the possible meanings of a word or phrase go with it whenever it is used.

Argument from silence: Assuming that everything relevant to an issue is mentioned in the Bible every time that issue is mentioned.

Argument from authority: Assuming that the views of “experts” or a preponderance of them must be correct.

Israel-Church confusion: Assuming that things that apply to biblical Israel also apply to the church.

Israel-modern nation confusion: Assuming that things that apply to biblical Israel also apply to modern nations.

Israel-modern Israel confusion: Assuming that the modern, secular state named Israel in the Near East is the Israel referred to in the Bible.

Figure of speech confusion: Failure to understand any of the many nonliteral expressions in human speech, especially metaphors.

Equivocation: Confusing a term or concept with another term or concept, thus misunderstanding its meaning.

False presupposition: Basing all or part of an argument or conclusion on incorrect assumptions.

*(adapted by Douglas Stuart on Old Testament Exegesis)**

Passages to ponder:

1 Thessalonians 5:19-22

Ephesians 4:13-16

Luke 24:25-30

John 5:39

1 Timothy 3:16

Colossians 1:26

Luke 6:43

2 Peter 1:20-21

2 Timothy 3:16-17

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