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# Goals of the Study

Study and application of God's Word :

1. We will be continuously changing;
2. We will increase in loving and helping others;
3. We will increase in our ability and knowledge in applying God's Word in our lives and others;

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## God's Word

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- a. Is intended to change us; informing and transforming
  - b. Knowing God; Knowing His Word
  - c. God used human authors, using their words, to be the exact truth the Holy Spirit intended to impart
  - d. The Bible Remains Authoritative for All Time
  - e. Our Participation in His Character; into the likeness of Christ
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## God's Word

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*Is intended to change us; informing and transforming...*

Romans 12:2

2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

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# God's Word

## *Knowing God and His Word...*

Ps 19:7-8

7 The **instruction** of the Lord is perfect, renewing one's life; the **testimony** of the Lord is trustworthy, making the inexperienced wise.

8 The **precepts** of the Lord are right, making the heart glad; the **command** of the Lord is radiant, making the eyes light up.

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# God's Word

## *God used human authors...*

Jeremiah 20:9

New International Version

9 But if I say, "I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name," his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.

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# God's Word

## *The Bible Remains Authoritative...*

1 Thessalonians 2:13

New International Version

13 And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.

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# God's Word

## *Our Participation in His Character...*

1 Corinthians 11:1

New International Version

1 Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

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## God's Word

*It guides us...*

Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.

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## God's Word

*It convicts us of sin and wrongdoing...*

Hebrews 4:12

"For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires."

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## God's Word

*It cleanses us and makes us holy...*

Ephesians 5:26

"...to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word."

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## God's Word

*It shows us who we have been made to be...*

James 1:23 NLT

"For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like."

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# God's Word

*It instructs and corrects us...*

Joshua 1:8

New International Version

8 Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

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# God's Word

*You're still here. And that matters.*

*Morgan Harper Nichols, artist*



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# The God of All Comfort

2 Corinthians 1:3-8 NIV

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. 5 For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. 6 If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. 7 And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.



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# He is Always at Work

Phillipians 1:3-7

3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, 4 always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, 5 for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ; 7 just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of grace.



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## The Bible is not just information...

Matthew 7:24

New International Version

24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.



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## Put it into practice...

Philippians 4:9

New International Version

9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.



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## Exercise...

Phil 2:12

12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation** with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

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*Applying*  
God's Word  
is essential...

- Knowledge produces pride if we don't apply truth to our lives.
- Knowledge requires action.
- Knowledge increases responsibility.

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## Four Steps to Applying God's Word in your life

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- Read It
- Study It
- Memorize It
- Meditate on It

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## Four Steps to Applying God's Word in your life

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### ***Read It***

Psalm 119:11

New International Version

11 I have hidden your word in my heart  
that I might not sin against you.

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## Four Steps to Applying God's Word in your life

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### ***Study It***

Heb 5:12 In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! 13 Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

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## Four Steps to Applying God's Word in your life

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### ***Memorize It***

Deuteronomy 11:18

New International Version

18 Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.

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# Four Steps to Applying God's Word in your life

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## ***Meditate on It***

Psalm 1:1-2

1 Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers,

2 but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.

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# Questions for Meditation

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- 1. What does this passage teach me about God?***
- 2. What does this passage teach me about the church?***
- 3. What does this passage teach me about myself? About my own desires and motives?***
- 5. Does this passage require that I take action? If so, what action should I take?***
- 6. What do I need to confess and/or repent of?***
- 7. What have I learned from this passage that will help me to focus on God and strive for His glory?***

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## Apply It

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John 13:17

New King James Version

17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

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## The Reluctant Preacher

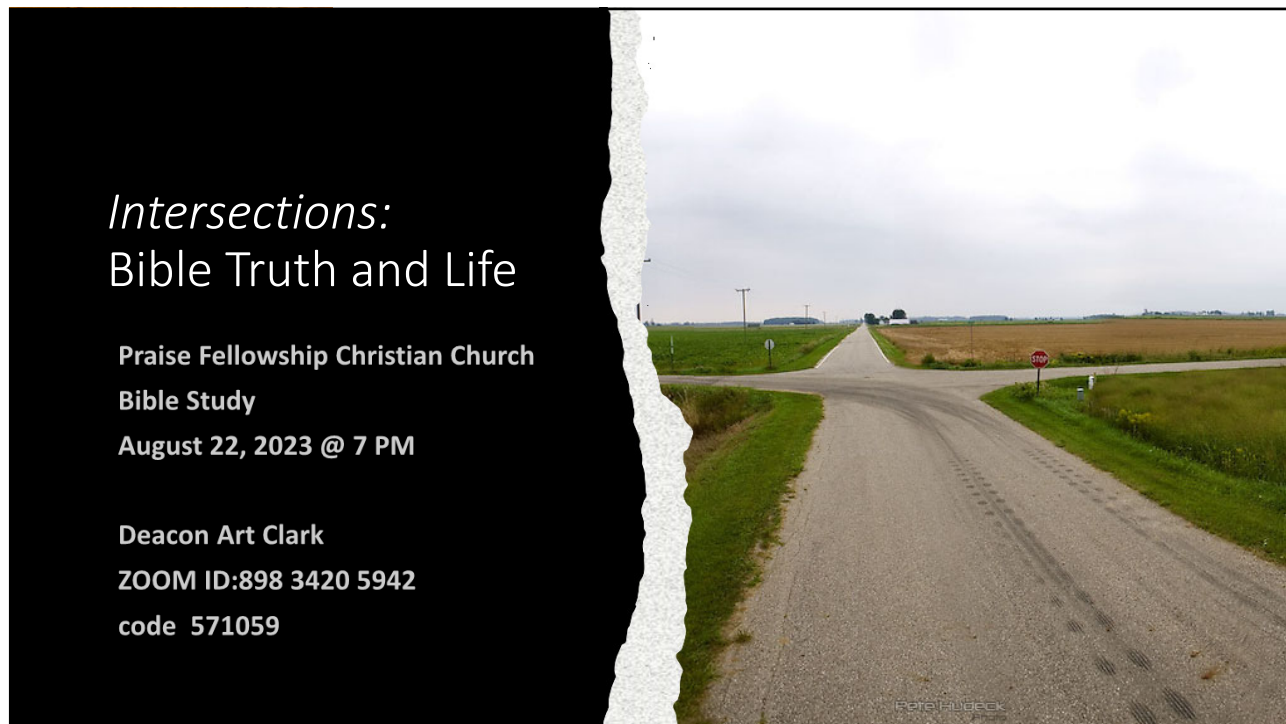
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Jonah 2

How did Jonah apply God's word to his situation?

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## He is Always Present

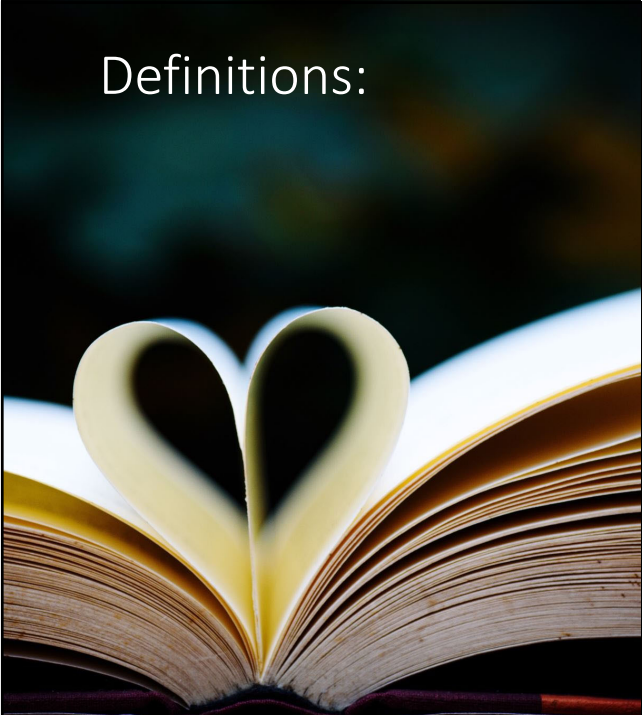
Psalm 100:4-5  
New International Version

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise; give thanks to him  
and praise his name.

5 For the Lord is good and his love endures  
forever; his faithfulness continues through all  
generations.

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## Definitions:

- a. Interpretation – The process of a reader seeking to understand the meaning of a scripture passage.
- b. Illumination – The process of the Holy Spirit helping the reader understand and apply biblical truth.
- c. Application – The process of a reader putting into practice the truths and principles he/she has learned in the Bible.

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## Principles for Biblical Interpretation:

John 16:13

1. Context
2. Consider
3. Ponder
4. Explore
5. Remember
6. Be Humble

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## Principles for Biblical Interpretation:

### 1. Context

To understand fully, *start small and extend outward*: verse, passage, chapter, book, author and testament/covenant.

1 Samuel 17:37 NIV

34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, 35 *I* went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on *me*, *I* seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it.

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## Principles for Biblical Interpretation:

2. Consider how the *original audience* would have understood the text.

John 14:13 NIV

13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

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## Principles for Biblical Interpretation:

3. Ponder.

The differences in dispensations between us and the original audience.

Leviticus 11 And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying to them, 2 "Speak to the people of Israel, saying, These are the living things that you may eat among all the animals that are on the earth. 3 Whatever parts the hoof and is cloven-footed and chews the cud, among the animals, you may eat.

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## Principles for Biblical Interpretation:

### 4. Explore

The moral commands from the Old Testament that are repeated in the New Testament as examples of a "timeless truth."

8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.

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## Principles for Biblical Interpretation:

### 5. Remember.

Each passage has one and only one correct interpretation but can have many applications.

Eph 4:25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. 26 "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold. 28 Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

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## Principles for Biblical Interpretation:

### 6. Be Humble.

Don't forget the role of the Holy Spirit in interpretation. He has promised to lead us into all truth.

John 16:13 KJV

However when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth; for He shall not speak from Himself, but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak; and He will show you things to come.

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## THREE APPLICATIONS OF SCRIPTURE

### *Historical,*

Doctrinal, and Personal

1 Corinthians 10:1-5 New International Version

10 For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. 2 They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. 3 They all ate the same spiritual food 4 and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. 5 Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

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## THREE APPLICATIONS OF SCRIPTURE

- Historical, **Doctrinal**, and Personal

1 Corinthians 10:11 New International Version

11 These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come.

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## THREE APPLICATIONS OF SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 10:6-11 New International Version

Historical, Doctrinal,  
and **Personal**

6 Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. 7 Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry." 8 We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. 9 We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. 10 And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel. 11 These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come.

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## JESUS' APPLICATION OF SCRIPTURE

### *The Story of Jonah*

Matthew 12:40-41 New International Version

40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. 41 The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now something greater than Jonah is here.

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