

How to Write a Sermon

Part 6 – Crossing the Bridge of Contextualization

Review – Given what we've learned so far, how do we properly apply a passage of Scripture?

Explore the First Island: the _____ message for the _____ audience

Questions to consider:

- Who is/are the author, audience, the characters?
- What is the situation, the literary context, and the grammar/language?
- When are we in history and in the story of redemption?
- Where is the author and/or audience?
- Why was this written?

Cross the Bridge of Correlation: involves that which remains the _____ and that which is _____

Questions to consider:

- What remains binding for God's people, even if the cultural form has shifted?
- What does not continue and why?
- How does this truth find its fulfillment, expansion, or reorientation in Christ?
- What changes because Christ has come, and what remains because God's character doesn't change?

Explore the Second Island: the _____ message for _____ audience

Questions to consider:

- What does this passage reveal about God's character, his ways, and his redemptive purposes?
- How does Christ embody or complete what the passage anticipates or points toward?

The Four Steps of Contextualization

Step 1: The modern _____ assumed or addressed in the text

Step 2: How Christ _____ the theological truth

Step 3: How Christ _____ obedience

Step 4: What obedience _____ like –

Why We Need Contextualization

The uncontextualized application:

- _____ Scripture because we ignore situation and context – **1 Corinthians 11:2-16**
- misses the _____ of the revelation – the _____ truth – **Jonah** (without **Matthew 12:39-41**)
- leaves the reader _____ but _____ – **Luke 6:28; Ephesians 5:3-5; Colossians 3:1-17**
- never gets to the real problem of the _____ – **Matthew 5:29-30; Ephesians 4:25-32**

In summary, your reading of Scripture should lead you to _____ in the good news
of what the Father has done through Jesus Christ and to joyfully _____ His commands

Practicing Contextualization

Matthew 6:25-34

Step 1 – *What is the fallen condition?*

Step 2 – *What theological truth does Christ fulfill?*

Step 3 – *How does Christ empower obedience?*

Step 4 – *What does obedience look like?*

Philippians 2:1-11

Step 1 – *What is the fallen condition?*

Step 2 – *What theological truth does Christ fulfill?*

Step 3 – *How does Christ empower obedience?*

Step 4 – *What does obedience look like?*

Hosea 1:2-11

Step 1 – *What is the fallen condition?*

Step 2 – *What theological truth does Christ fulfill?*

Step 3 – *How does Christ empower obedience?*

Step 4 – *What does obedience look like?*

Jeremiah 29:1-14

Step 1 – *What is the fallen condition?*

Step 2 – *What theological truth does Christ fulfill?*

Step 3 – *How does Christ empower obedience?*

Step 4 – *What does obedience look like?*