



Living by the Book

Study to understand!

Application

The Value of Application- ch. 39

- Major question of studying the bible: "so what?"
- Understanding the Bible is simply a means to a larger end: practicing Biblical truth every day.
- The Bible was not written to satisfy your curiosity; it was written to transform your life!
- We must come to the Bible expecting to be transformed by it (James 1:22-25)

Make the Truth Attractive!

- There's an inherent danger in Bible study: it can degenerate into a process that's intellectually fascinating but spiritually frustrating.
- You can get mentally excited by the truth, yet fail to be morally changed by it.

4 Inappropriate Substitutes for Application

- Substitute interpretation for application (Matt. 13:12, Luke 12:48, Luke 6:46, Matthew 7:22, Matt. 5:20, James 4:17)
- Substitute superficial obedience for real life-change. (James 1:22-25)
- Substitute rationalization for repentance. (ex. Heb. 10:25)

- Substitute an emotional experience for a volitional decision. (John 4:24)

To know and not to do is not to know at all.

4 Steps in Application- ch. 40

“The genius of the Word of God is that it has staying power; it can stand up to repeated exposure.”—Hendricks, p.

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- Know
 - Know the text- Interpretation is one; application is many.
 - Know yourself (1 Tim. 4:16, Rom. 12:3; Psalm 139)
- Relate
 - We must relate the Bible to our experience.
 - Arriving at the goal of Christ-likeness requires heeding to God’s Word.
 - Life-change comes through applying Bible truth.
- Meditate
 - Give yourself time to process the truth.
 - “Meditation is pondering the truth with a view to letting it help and readjust your life. Weave Scripture into the fabric of everyday life.”
 - This step is essential!
 - This often means that you need to memorize.
- Practice
 - “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.
 - There’s a cycle: The more you understand it, the more you use it; and the more you use it, the more you want to understand it.