

Teaching the Bible to Students

Iron on Iron 2015
Snowbird Wilderness Outfitters
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“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Mt 28:18-20

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth”.

2 Timothy 2:15 ESV

Hermeneutics: Working out of rules and methods for interpreting scriptural text.

Exegesis: Determining the meaning of the text in context. Drawing out the meaning from the text. Not reading into it. Seeks to just know what God said.

Interpretation: Determining the text meaning and the implication of it for today.

Application: Taking the meaning and implication and charging, encouraging, exhorting, rebuking and commanding both ourselves and hearers.

- **Anecdotal:** Preacher tells stories with moral lessons.
- **Biographical:** Traces the life of a biblical character and draws contemporary moral implications.
- **Topical:** A sermon that focuses on a specific topic. This could be doctrinal, cultural, age specific, etc.
- **Through books of the Bible.**

“Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.”

1 Timothy 4:13 ESV

You have three things: 1) what does the Bible say? 2) What does it mean by what it says? This is often the missing ingredient... what does it mean? Paul said to Timothy, "Till I come, give attention to reading (that's what it says), to doctrine (that's what it means by what it says) 3) Exhortation (that's how it applies)." -MacArthur

- 1) What does the Bible say?
- 2) What does it mean by what it says?
- 3) How does it apply?

“The agenda Paul spells out for Timothy emphasizes the centrality of the text for theological correctness and includes not just a basic reading but a fuller awareness of the text’s meaning that is gained through study, reflection, and devotion.” -Mounce

How should we approach preaching/teaching?

Devotionally

“To make disciples I must be a disciple”-Davis

- In an attitude of prayer.
- With a desire to know Jesus better.
- To have our own minds transformed by the scriptures.
- For meditation: to have our lives conformed to Jesus.
- For wisdom to face trial and temptations. As well as to take advantage of opportunities the Lord gives us.
- For our own personal holiness.

“Attempting to understand or apply a particular biblical phrase or verse without reference to the literary context is virtually guaranteed to result in distortion...Once we understand Paul’s (The authors), original meaning in context, it is easier to faithfully apply the text to our current situation...The power of a sermon or Bible lesson lies in its faithfulness to the inspired text.”-
Plummer

How should we approach preaching/teaching?

Prepared to work

- Bible Genre (Narrative, Prophecy, Poetry, Epistle, etc).
- Background (Language, Location, Arthur, Audience, Time, Situation)
- Context (Word, Sentence, Paragraph, thought, Theme, Book, Testament, The Whole of Scripture).
- Use Scripture to understand Scripture.
- Contextualization
- Application
- Theological Reflection

Tools of Bible Study

- Commentaries (Expositor's Bible Commentary, Boice, NIV commentary, NICNT, Word Biblical Commentary)
- Bible Dictionaries (Vines, Ungers, Strongs, Eerdmans, Zondervan)
- Bible Encyclopedias (International Standard Bible Encyclopedia by Geoffrey W. Bromiley (NOT ORR))
- Systematic Theology. (Wayne Grudem, Millard Erickson)
- Concordance and web sites (Strongs, Vines) (blueletterbible.org, biblegateway.com, bible-history.com, esword)

More Tools of Bible Study

- 40 questions about Interpreting the Bible by Robert L. Plummer
- Exegetical Fallacies by D.A. Carson
- 9 Marks by Mark Dever <http://marks.9marks.org/Mark1/LessonA/Slide1of1>