

Relating to Bible Culture **Study Questions**

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this week's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.
2. Have you ever had an experience with a person from another culture. Share with your group something culturally different from our culture.
3. Read the quote on the front page "Understanding the Bible requires..." What can make applying this statement in your life challenging?
4. Pastor shared three pointers for helping us to balance or counter our cultural bias. Did one of them stand out to you?
5. If you were asked before this message to define "culture." What would be your definition. Was there one of the eleven aspects of culture that stood out to you.
6. We have been working on reading the New Testament in 30 days. Looking over the list of Cultural Categories, share one that you have come across in your reading. How would you categorize this cultural passage?
7. Take a few minutes to review the list of Challenging Cultural Passages. Which one would you like to understand better?
8. Pastor provided "Four Guidelines for Interpreting Cultural Passages." If you have a tendency to error in fitting culture passages into one of these guidelines, what would it be?
9. We have been reading a lot of Scripture and Pastor has been using many illustrations. Has there been one passage this past week that has touched you?

Digging Deeper

10. Keep up with the 30 Day Reading Challenge. Research you response to question 7 and share your results with your group next week.

Relating to Bible Culture

Series: Using My Bible

Sunday May 22, 2014

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me."

Revelation 3:20 ESV

I. Let the Bible _____

"Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord."

Ephesians 5:22 ESV

"Understanding the Bible properly requires that we clear our minds of all ideas, opinions, and systems of our own day and attempt to put ourselves into the time and surrounding of the Apostles and Prophets who wrote."

Countering My Bias

1. Include Three _____ of Interpretation

H _____

G _____

R _____

2. Let the _____ Guide Me

1. Verses _____ before and after passage.

2. P _____, Book and A _____

3. D _____

4. Whole _____

5. _____ Environment

3. Ask “Why was the book written?”

1. Who _____?
2. What _____?
3. When _____?
4. Why _____?
5. To Whom _____?

My Goal is to _____ the original meaning of the Scriptures when they were first written.

II. What is _____?

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.”

1 John 2:15–16 ESV

Categories of Culture

1. P _____ (Daniel 5:7,16)
2. Religious (Exodus 7-12)
3. E _____ (Ruth 4:8,17)
4. L _____ (2 Kings 2:9; Deuteronomy 21:17)
5. Agricultural (Matthew 13:31-32)
6. Architectural (Mark 2:1-12)
7. C _____ (Proverbs 6:27)
8. D _____ (Matthew 25:1-13)
9. Geographical (Revelation 3:16)
10. M _____ (2 Corinthians 2:14)
11. S _____ (Job 2:2)

III. _____ for Interpreting Culture

“Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ,”

Ephesians 6:5 ESV

“I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet.”

1 Timothy 2:12 ESV

My Two Responsibilities

1. To determine what the text meant to it _____ readers in that cultural setting.
2. To determine what the text means to us _____ in our context.

(Note Insert: Challenging Cultural Passages)

Four Guidelines for Handling Cultural Passages

1. _____ /Timeless

“Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.” Genesis 9:6 ESV

2. _____

“When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments.”

2 Timothy 4:13 ESV

3. _____ (Romans 16:6)

“Greet one another with a holy kiss.”

Romans 16:16 ESV

4. _____ (Matthew 26:7-8; Exodus 3:5)

“a woman came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head as he reclined at table.”

Matthew 26:7 ESV

“Now I commend you because you remember me in everything and maintain the traditions even as I delivered them to you. But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God. Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head, but every wife who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head, since it is the same as if her head were shaven. For if a wife will not cover her head, then she should cut her hair short. But since it is disgraceful for a wife to cut off her hair or shave her head, let her cover her head.”

1 Corinthians 11:2–6 ESV