

SHEFFEY BIBLE COLLEGE

Course: Hermeneutics 101

Chapter 13 Student Handout

APPLICATION

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT YOU SHOULD LEARN FROM TODAY'S LECTURE

- Understand the difference between meaning and application.
- Learn how application fits into the Interpretive Journey.
- Identify the steps involved in applying Scripture.
- Recognize the importance of true parallel situations.
- Understand how Philippians 4:13 is commonly misapplied.
- Learn how to create faithful and specific applications.

I. INTRODUCTION: GRASPING GOD'S WORD THROUGH APPLICATION

Key Principle:

Biblical understanding must lead to biblical obedience.

Short Explanation

Bible study is not complete until believers live out the truth they have learned. Knowledge alone is insufficient. God's purpose is transformation.

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II. MEANING AND APPLICATION DISTINGUISHED

Key Principle:

Meaning is fixed; application varies within the boundaries of meaning.

Short Explanation

Meaning is what the author intended to communicate. Application is the reader's response to that meaning. Meaning remains constant, but applications may differ among believers.

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### III. APPLICATION WITHIN THE INTERPRETIVE JOURNEY

Key Principle:

Application follows interpretation.

Short Explanation

The first four steps of the Interpretive Journey focus on discovering meaning. Application occurs after meaning has been established.

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### IV. THE FIVE-STEP APPLICATION PROCESS

Key Principle:

Valid application grows out of proper interpretation.

Short Explanation

Believers should understand the original situation, identify theological principles, consult the rest of Scripture, and then apply the principle faithfully.

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The goal of interpretation is life transformation through obedience to God's Word.

#### Short Explanation

God's Word was given not merely to increase knowledge but to produce godly living and deeper fellowship with Him.

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#### THINGS TO KNOW (EXAM ANCHORS)

- Knowing Scripture is not the same as living Scripture.
- Meaning refers to authorial intent.
- Application refers to the reader's response to meaning.
- Meaning remains constant for all believers.
- Applications may vary among believers.
- Application belongs primarily to Step 5 of the Interpretive Journey.
- Interpretation must precede application.
- Theological principles connect biblical meaning to modern application.
- Applications must remain within the boundaries of meaning.
- Philippians 4:13 teaches contentment and endurance through Christ.
- False parallels produce false applications.
- True application requires a genuine parallel situation.
- Specific applications may involve character, thinking, behavior, or prayer.
- Contemporization places biblical truth into a modern setting.
- The goal of Bible study is transformed living.

#### Closing Summary

Chapter 13 teaches that biblical interpretation reaches its intended goal when believers faithfully live out the meaning of Scripture. Meaning comes from the biblical author and remains constant, while application involves responding to that meaning in contemporary life. Sound application requires careful interpretation, genuine parallels, and faithful obedience to God's Word.

#### ASSIGNMENT

Read Chapter 14 in Grasping God's Word in preparation for the next lecture.

# SHEFFEY BIBLE COLLEGE

## HERMENEUTICS 102

### COURSE SYLLABUS

**Semester Length:** 12 Weeks

**Instructor:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### COURSE TEXT

Duvall, J. Scott, and J. Daniel Hays. *Grasping God's Word*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Hermeneutics 102 continues the study of biblical interpretation by completing the Interpretive Journey and then applying sound interpretive principles to the major literary genres of the New Testament and Old Testament. The course begins with Chapter 13, **Application**, emphasizing the movement from correct meaning to faithful Christian living. Chapters 14-22 then address New Testament Letters, Gospels, Acts, Revelation, Old Testament Narrative, Law, Poetry, Prophets, and Wisdom Literature.

The course emphasizes authorial intent, literary and historical context, theological principles, the distinction between meaning and application, and responsible application of Scripture.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Distinguish biblical meaning from contemporary application.
- Explain how application completes the Interpretive Journey.
- Apply sound interpretive principles to the major biblical genres studied in Chapters 14-22.
- Recognize the literary characteristics that affect interpretation of Letters, Gospels, Acts, Revelation, Narrative, Law, Poetry, Prophets, and Wisdom Literature.
- Interpret Scripture according to authorial intent and literary and historical context.
- Recognize common interpretive errors and avoid imposing meaning upon the biblical text.
- Move responsibly from original meaning to timeless theological principles and faithful contemporary application.
- Develop greater confidence and responsibility in Bible study, teaching, preaching, ministry, and Christian living.

#### SCRIPTURE

The King James Version (KJV) will be used for Scripture in course lectures, student handouts, and classroom instruction.

#### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Complete assigned textbook reading from Chapters 13-22.
- Participate in the ten course lectures.
- Complete one comprehensive examination covering Chapters 13-22.
- Complete one eight-page research paper based on one chapter studied during the semester.

#### ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to attend scheduled class sessions, participate appropriately in classroom discussion, and complete assigned reading before the corresponding lecture whenever possible.

#### 12-WEEK COURSE SCHEDULE

##### WEEK 1 - CHAPTER 13: APPLICATION

Meaning and application; how to live out the meaning of Scripture; application within the Interpretive Journey; faithful, specific application; and transformation through obedience.

#### **WEEK 2 - CHAPTER 14: NEW TESTAMENT - LETTERS**

Characteristics and form of New Testament letters; historical situations; reading letters as complete communications; and moving from original situation to faithful application.

#### **WEEK 3 - CHAPTER 15: NEW TESTAMENT - GOSPELS**

Gospels as Christological biographies; literary context; observation; authorial arrangement; figures of speech; and responsible interpretation without excessive allegorization.

#### **WEEK 4 - CHAPTER 16: NEW TESTAMENT - ACTS**

Acts as theological history; expansion of the church and gospel; major themes; and the distinction between descriptive events and normative principles.

#### **WEEK 5 - CHAPTER 17: NEW TESTAMENT - REVELATION**

Revelation as letter, prophecy, and apocalyptic literature; historical context; symbolism; Old Testament background; and interpreting visions according to their primary message.

#### **WEEK 6 - CHAPTER 18: OLD TESTAMENT - NARRATIVE**

Narrative as theological history; plot, setting, characters, narrator, comparison, contrast, irony, literary context, and theological truth.

#### **WEEK 7 - CHAPTER 19: OLD TESTAMENT - LAW**

Old Testament Law within Israel's narrative and covenant context; Mosaic and New Covenants; and moving from Old Testament laws to theological principles and Christian application.

#### **WEEK 8 - CHAPTER 20: OLD TESTAMENT - POETRY**

Hebrew poetry, parallelism, imagery, figures of speech, emotional expression, and responsible interpretation of poetic language.

#### **WEEK 9 - CHAPTER 21: OLD TESTAMENT - PROPHETS**

Prophets as covenant messengers; historical and covenant context; judgment and restoration; poetic language; predictive prophecy; and the Near View-Far View.

#### **WEEK 10 - CHAPTER 22: OLD TESTAMENT - WISDOM**

Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs; biblical wisdom; general principles versus universal promises; suffering, life's limitations, and godly living.

#### **WEEK 11 - READING COMPLETION & RESEARCH PAPER WORK WEEK**

No new lecture. Complete unfinished reading, review lecture materials, conduct research, organize sources, write or revise the paper, verify citations, and begin exam review.

#### **WEEK 12 - COURSE COMPLETION**

Research Paper due. Comprehensive Examination covering Chapters 13-22. Final course review as directed by the instructor.

### **COURSE GRADING**

**Comprehensive Examination:** 60%    **Research Paper:** 20%    **Reading Completion:** 20%

**Total:** 100%

### **GRADING SCALE**

A = 90-100    B = 80-89    C = 70-79    D = 60-69    F = Below 60

### **COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION - 60%**

Students will complete **one comprehensive examination** covering Chapters 13-22 and the material taught throughout the ten lectures. The examination will consist only of **Multiple Choice** and **True/False** questions. There will be no short-answer or

essay questions.

Students should give special attention to the **THINGS TO KNOW (EXAM ANCHORS)** in the lecture outlines and student handouts. The exam will also contain the course reading-verification item. For final course grading, reading completion is recorded as the separate 20% reading component shown above rather than being counted twice.

## **READING COMPLETION - 20%**

Students are expected to complete all assigned reading from Chapters 13-22 of *Grasping God's Word*. Reading completion will be verified by the course reading-verification question, which students are expected to answer honestly.

## **RESEARCH PAPER ASSIGNMENT - 20%**

Each student will complete **one research paper**. The student will select **one chapter from Chapters 13-22** and write an academic paper on the subject and content of that chapter.

### **PAPER LENGTH AND FORMAT**

- Minimum of eight full pages of written content.
- Times New Roman, 12-point font; double-spaced; one-inch margins.
- Title page and Works Cited/Bibliography do not count toward the eight-page minimum.
- Proper grammar, spelling, punctuation, and academic organization.

### **RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS**

- The course textbook must be used as a primary source.
- Use one to two additional credible academic sources.
- Properly cite direct quotations, paraphrased material, and ideas derived from another author.
- Include a Works Cited or Bibliography listing the textbook and every additional source used.

### **PAPER CONTENT**

#### **1. Introduction**

Introduce the selected chapter or subject and explain the purpose and direction of the paper.

#### **2. Overview of the Chapter**

Summarize the major subject and identify the primary interpretive issues addressed.

#### **3. Major Hermeneutical Principles**

Explain the most important principles presented and why they matter for biblical interpretation.

#### **4. Additional Research**

Interact meaningfully with the one or two additional sources.

#### **5. Importance for Biblical Interpretation**

Explain how the principles help Christians interpret Scripture accurately and responsibly.

#### **6. Practical Value**

Discuss value for personal Bible study, teaching, preaching, ministry, or Christian living.

#### **7. Conclusion**

Summarize the major findings and reinforce the importance of the subject to faithful biblical interpretation.

### **RESEARCH PAPER EVALUATION**

- Understanding and accuracy of hermeneutical content.
- Quality and depth of research.
- Proper use and citation of the textbook and additional sources.

- Organization, clarity, grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
- Compliance with formatting and length requirements.
- Overall quality and presentation.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students are expected to submit work that represents their own study, thought, research, and writing. Plagiarism, copying another student's work, presenting another person's work as one's own, or failing to properly acknowledge sources constitutes academic dishonesty and may result in a reduced grade, failure of the assignment, or other disciplinary action at the discretion of the instructor and college.

## **COURSE PHILOSOPHY**

Faithful interpretation requires careful attention to what the biblical authors intended to communicate. Students should seek to understand Scripture according to its historical setting, literary context, genre, grammar, and authorial intent before moving to contemporary application. Meaning must precede application.

### **2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)**

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."