
SUMMARY

Last week, we began to think about the question, “How do we read the Bible?” This has to do with interpretation or *hermeneutics* which is the science and art of interpreting the Bible. So far we talked about the importance of the original author’s meaning and considering the context of the passage. Specifically we mentioned the **historical** context (last week) and this week we talked about the **literary** and **theological** context of a passage. All of these contribute to the *meaning* of a text. Once you understand what a passage means then you can apply it to your life today. This is the end goal, which we can’t forget as we work through these steps.

GROUP QUESTIONS *(For use with your family, roommates, Community or Bible Group, or individually)*

Share something from the message or passages that surprised, encouraged, or troubled you.

Read 1 Thessalonians 2.1-13.

What does Paul say about *the word* in verse 13? Share a time in your life when a specific Bible passage was *at work* in you (had a deep impact in your life).

Read 2 Timothy 2.15.

Why is it important to rightly handle God’s word? (This is a review from last week, but important!)

What do we mean when we say, “The Bible is literature?”

What is genre? What are the 8 types of genre found in the Bible? (If you don’t remember them all that’s okay.)

Biblical genre is a big topic, but share what you do know about how to interpret some of the genre’s mentioned above. In other words, what are some basic guidelines when reading passages from these genre’s?

The Theological context of a passage is important to understand it’s meaning. Discuss your thoughts from the message on this. Do you remember the difference between Biblical Theology and Systematic Theology?

Read Nehemiah 8.1-8. Discuss what was happening in this passage? What does “give the sense” mean in v8?

Pastor Rob mentioned the upcoming Bible Group Training (3/5 7-830pm). If you’re interested please sign up!

RESOURCES

The Journey from Text to Translations, Paul D. Wegner

The Bible Project Podcast and Videos: *How to Read The Bible*

ESV Study Bible

New Bible Commentary, Edited by Motyer, Carson, etc.

For the Love of God’s Word: An Introduction to Biblical Interpretation, Kostenberger and Patterson

Please email Pastor Rob with any questions rob@seasidechurch.com