

Sufficiency of Scripture in a Culture of Relativism

This plenary session is an organic extension of plenary session I. Just how does a culture of Critical Theory attack the sufficiency of Scripture and, consequently, impact the biblical counseling ministry?

I. Critical Theory- working definition

Defined:

Contemporary critical theory views reality through the lens of power, dividing people into oppressed groups and oppressor groups along various axes like race, class, gender, sexuality orientation, physical ability and age. — Neil Shenvi

Four premises of Critical Theory:

1. Our individual identity, who we are as individuals, is inseparable from our group identity. Your identity is determined by your group.
2. Oppressor groups subjugate oppressed groups through the exercise of hegemonic power. Hegemonic power- the ability to impose your group's values, expectations, and norms of others. "In any relationship there are groups (men//women, young/old) the dominant group is the group that is valued more highly. Dominant groups set the norms by which the minoritized group is judged." *Is Everyone Really Equal?,"* by Ozlem Sensoy and Robin DiAngelo

3. Fundamental moral duty is freeing groups from oppression.

Lived experience is more important than objective evidence in understanding oppression. Lived experience outweighs evidence and rational thought. *Race Class and Gender*, by Margaret Anderson and Patricia Hill Collins, “The idea that objectivity is best reached only through rational thought is a specifically Western and masculine way of thinking, one that we will challenge throughout this book.”
— Neil Shenvi

II. Critical Theory’s attack on Sufficiency & its Impact on Biblical Counseling ministry

Thesis:

Critical Theory Premise 1:

Critical Theory Premise 2:

Critical Theory Premise 3:

Critical Premise 4:

Summary: