

Putting the Truth into Practice: A Guide for Applying the Bible

I. Common Mistakes in Application

- A. Neglect of Literary Context
- B. Neglect of Historical Context
- C. Neglect of Differences in Situation

II. Foundational Principles

- A. Remember the Bible was NOT written *to* you. It was written *for* you.
- B. Look for two types of application:
 - 1. Change in Action (what to do)
 - 2. Change in Attitude (what to think, feel, and/or desire)

III. The Fallen Condition Focus

- A. Fallen Condition Focus (F.C.F.): The aspect of our fallenness that is common to all human beings, which the text was written to address.
- B. Using the Fallen Condition Focus to Apply the Bible:
 - 1. What is the message of the text? What is the big idea?
 - 2. What situation does the text address? What aspect of human fallenness is displayed in that situation?
 - Look for fallenness in one of three places:
 - Original Audience (NT Epistles, OT Prophets)
 - Characters (Narratives)
 - Author (Psalms)
 - 3. How do we experience the same aspect of fallenness?
 - 4. How does the message of the text minister to us in these situations?