

The Importance of Application

Every Bible lesson should have application to our daily lives. When we read or study God's word, we should be looking for application to our lives and asking these questions:

- What is God saying to me?
- What does God want me to change as a result of this?
- What does God want me to stop doing?
- What does God want me to do?

When we teach a Bible lesson we should be thinking of the application to our students' lives also. The whole lesson and class time should revolve around these applications. For example: At the time of this writing, we are teaching a summer program that has for a major application that we should trust God in whatever circumstances we are in.

James 1:22

But prove yourselves **doers** of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

Matthew 7:24-27

²⁴ "Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall."

One word of caution: We are to present the application to the lives of our students, but we are not the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit's job to convict our students and bring about change in their lives. You cannot and should not try to change any student. It cannot be done without God working in their lives. We need to be faithful in teaching even if it looks like our teaching is not making a difference in their lives. We cannot know our own heart fully—how can we expect to know our students' hearts and what is happening in their lives. God works from the inside out to transform our lives.

II Corinthians 3:17-18

¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, *there* is liberty. ¹⁸ But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.