

EMMAUS EQUIPPING COLLEGE

Grasping God's Word - Assignment 2

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Question 1 - Describe the five steps of the Interpretive Journey

1. Grasping the text in their town -
What did the text mean for the biblical audience?
2. Measuring the width of the river to cross –
What are the differences between the biblical audience and us?
3. Crossing the principlizing bridge –
What is the theological principle in the text?
4. Consulting the biblical map –
How does our theological principle fit with the rest of the bible?
5. Grasping the text in our town -
How should individual Christians today live out the theological principles?

Question 2 - What are the guidelines for developing theological principles?

The guidelines for developing theological principles can be summarized as follows;

- It should be reflected in the text
- It should be timeless and not tied to a specific situation
- It should not be culturally bound
- It should correspond to the teaching of the rest of scripture
- It should be relevant to both the biblical and the contemporary audience

Question 3 - What are the differences that determine the width of the river to cross?

The differences that determine the width of the river to cross, i.e. the differences between the biblical audience and us, include the differences in culture/custom, language, situation, time and covenant. **Amen! Sometimes the width of the river is narrow and shallow, but othertimes it is deep and wide.**

These differences are crucial considerations when learning to understand the scriptures' contextual meaning and application for the original biblical audience and us as contemporary Christians.

Thank you Carlo. Do you have a particular scripture in mind to help illustrate an example of a teaching or incident taken from an original biblical situation or audience, and show how that river is crossed as it might apply to faithful believers in Christ today? END