

Joshua Anderson – Grasping God’s Word – Assignment 12.1

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The Unbelieving Doctor’s approach to reading and interpreting John 3:16 I would suggest would be purely on an intellectual level. Looking at definitions of key words & the details of the text and the surrounding context. With his studies he would be able to from the one verse pull the most information of compared to his wife & daughter and more than most people full stop.

However, the meaning and significance that John was trying to convey and impact the reader with as he himself was inspired by the holy spirit to write would be lost on such an unbeliever.

Missing the gravity of the only all powerful & external God, who, was so moved by love for the world (mankind) that as Father He who would willing give His greatest treasure, and as Son who would put His eternal life on the line & perish for the world – because He loves us that much.

The Believing Wife’s approach to reading and interpreting John 3:16 I would suggest would be beautifully balanced intellectually & personal experiential, being a long-time rooted member of the faith to the point where she as well even carried out a Master of Arts Degree in Biblical Studies – by no means a casual endeavour. With God Spirit’s coupled with her gained interpretive tools, this passage (as others would of before) would move her to be strengthen in a deep head & heart knowledge of God’s love for her. She was now the key figure in helping her daughter on her journey of being touched by God’s spirit too, more so than her father – despite his intellectual knowledge.

The Believing Daughters approach to reading and interpreting John 3:16 I would suggest would be purely a personal experiential reading as God’s spirit counselling her to have an impact on her life. 1 Corinthians 12:3 says “*no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit*”, so can see God spirit is working with her but would suggest her depth of understanding John 3:16 be lacking assuming intellectually she is like the most 9-year-olds!