

## PRINCIPLE NINE: Apply to the Hands

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### What does it mean to apply God's Word to the hands?

To apply God's Word to the "hands" means to put it to work in our **actions and activities**. This includes the author's intended response in:

1. Our personal habits and spiritual disciplines
2. Our service and speech to fellow believers
3. Our words and works on behalf of the wider world



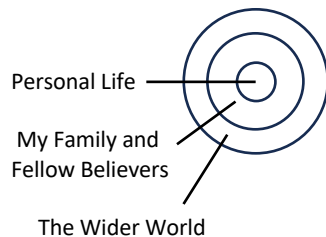
### Why is applying God's Word to the hands important?

The transformative power of God's Word is meant to affect all areas of our lives. From our heads to our hearts, the application of God's Word is supposed to finally be expressed through the works of our hands and the words of our mouths (Ephesians 2:8-10; 2 Timothy 3:16-17).

If God's Word does not affect **what we do** and **what we say**, it has not fully had its intended effect on our lives. A right understanding of God's Word (*orthodoxy*) is meant to lead to living more rightly before him (*orthopraxy*).

### How do we apply God's Word to our hands?

1. Identify the Main Idea of a book or passage. Ask:
  - What is the topic that the author is addressing and what specifically is the author saying about it?
2. Determine its Application to the Head and the Heart. Ask:
  - How does this text challenge, correct, or confirm my worldview?
  - How does it deepen my devotion to Jesus by pointing to or reflecting back on his death and resurrection on my behalf?
3. Consider its Application for the Hands in the concentric circles of life. Ask:
  - How should this text affect my personal habits and holiness? How I use my time, talents, spiritual gifts, and material possessions?
  - How should this text affect the way I serve and speak to my family and fellow believers?
  - How should this text affect the words and works I do on behalf of the wider world?



### Questions to Consider:

Read Jonah 4:1-11.

From its structure and context within the book of Jonah, what is the Main Idea of the passage? What is the topic it addresses and what is being said about it?

How does this passage challenge, correct, or confirm particular aspects of your worldview?

How does this passage point forward to Jesus' death and resurrection on your behalf?

How does this passage affect your actions and activities in the concentric circles of life?

With your personal life:

With family and fellow believers:

With the wider world: