

PRINCIPLE EIGHT: Apply to the Heart

What does it mean to Apply God's Word to the Heart?

To apply God's Word to the heart is to allow it to have its intended effect on our **loves and affections**.

As opposed to just being aimed at our feelings, this is aimed at **deepening our devotion**, specifically to Jesus.

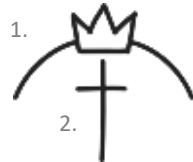


How is our devotion to Jesus deepened?

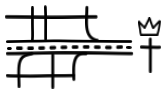
After his resurrection, Jesus met two of his disciples on a road to a town called Emmaus, and "beginning with Moses and the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself" (Luke 24:27). They said later, "Did our hearts not burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" (Luke 24:32).

Our hearts will likewise burn within us and our devotion to Jesus will be deepened when we see the Bible as:

1. A **Single Story** of God's work to save God's people
2. Centered on **the Work of God's Son**



In what ways do the Old and New Testaments center on Jesus?



The Bible is like a map in which all roads lead to Jesus. Not all are main highways, but all ultimately link up and lead to him.

We can ask then how a text connects to the Bible's bigger storyline or to one of its many themes that leads to Jesus.

- The **Old Testament** points **TO the Work of Christ**

Jesus said of his death and resurrection "that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled" (Luke 24:44). We can therefore ask of any Old Testament book or passage:

1. How its major themes connect to the unfolding story of the Bible
2. How it ultimately anticipates Jesus' coming to die and rise again

- The **New Testament** reflects **BACK ON the Work of Christ**

Just as the Old Testament points to Jesus' work, the New Testament explains its significance and anticipates his return. We can therefore ask:

1. How it draws out the implications of Jesus' death and resurrection
2. How it anticipates Jesus' coming again

Questions to Consider:

What are the major themes of the book of Jonah?

How do these connect to the themes of the unfolding story of the Bible?

How does the story of Jonah fit into the bigger story of the Bible about God's work to save God's people through the work of God's Son?

How does the book of Jonah point forward to Jesus, especially to his coming to die and rise again?