He Gave Us Scripture
Study Guide 1.3
Lesson 1: Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics
Section 3: Devotional Hermeneutics

OUTLINE FOR TAKING NOTES

III. Devotional Hermeneutics

A. Biblical Roots

B. Examples

C. Priorities

  1. Preparation

  2. Investigation

  3. Application

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1.3.1 How does the lesson define "devotional hermeneutics"?

1.3.2 What is the teaching of Hebrews 4:12?

1.3.3 What did Origen (185-254 A.D.) write to Gregory regarding the reading of Scripture?

1.3.4 Describe each of the four steps of "Lectio Divina."

lectio
meditatio
oratio
contemplatio

1.3.5 What was Calvin's attitude toward devotional hermeneutics?

1.3.6 Which theologian wrote the following words? "As I read the words [of 1 Timothy], there came into my soul...a sense of the glory of the Divine Being; a new sense, quite different from any thing I ever experienced before. Never any words of Scripture seemed to me as these words did. I thought within myself, how excellent a Being that was, and how happy I should be, if I might enjoy that God...forever!"

1.3.7 James 4:8 says, "Draw near to God and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_."

1.3.8 How does the lesson explain that we should prepare for a devotional interpretation the Scriptures?

1.3.9 When we ask, "How does this text reveal the author's experience of God?", which step of devotional hermeneutics are we doing?

1.3.10 What are the three areas of application when we are doing devotional hermeneutics, according to the lesson?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Would you consider your normal method of Bible study more "scientific" or more "devotional." Explain.

2. Do you see the need for "devotional" hermeneutics? Why? How can you include that aspect as you study the Scriptures?

3. Have you ever practiced something like Lectio Divina? Would you consider trying it?

4. What practical things can you do to help develop your relationship with God as you study the Bible, and avoid a purely intellectual approach?

5. Which dimension do you think you need to develop more as you apply the Scriptures: concepts, behavior, or emotions?

6. What is the most important teaching you learned in this lesson?