

Application

[This lecture corresponds to assigned Reading #15:
Christ-centered Preaching, pp. 208-235.]

For mid-term review:

What distinguishes illustration from mere allusion?

What do listeners automatically assume a preacher is illustrating?

What is an "interpreting statement" or "grouping statement" and how is it used?

What are some important cautions of which to be aware when illustrating?

Goal for this lesson: To understand the basic reasons and means for applying scriptural truth in an expository message.

Introduction:

Without application meaning is hidden. Application is essential to full exposition.

I. What is Application?

The consequence of the truth the Scripture presents. It answers the question "So what?" Application converts lectures to sermons, information to exhortation, intellectual acquisition to life transformation. Application is the most difficult feature of preaching. Application requires the preacher to take a stand and therefore demands courage. Far easier to dispense information than to seek transformation;

+General Application Principles:

Application concentrates on what _____ is required of man.

Application answers " _____?"

Application may be _____ or _____.

+Specific Application Possibilities

<>Because Application seeks heart and life transformation rather than mere mind expansion, Broadus calls it " the _____ " in expository preaching.

II. Why Must Application be Included?

- A. Application explains the reason for the exposition (i.e., preceding or surrounding explanation and illustration).

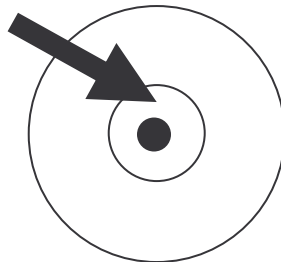


- B. Application focuses the exposition

(Exegesis and exposition are bottomless pits of infinite commentary possibilities without a purpose clearly in mind)

— Application is _____ of sermon research; _____ of sermon writing stage

— Left field rule



- C. Application clarifies (even gives meaning to) the exposition

Explanation = Tell \
Illustration = Show | All are essential for full exposition
Application = Do /

- D. Application of truth is required in Scripture

III. What are the Components of Application?

Determined by Four Developmental Questions:

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.

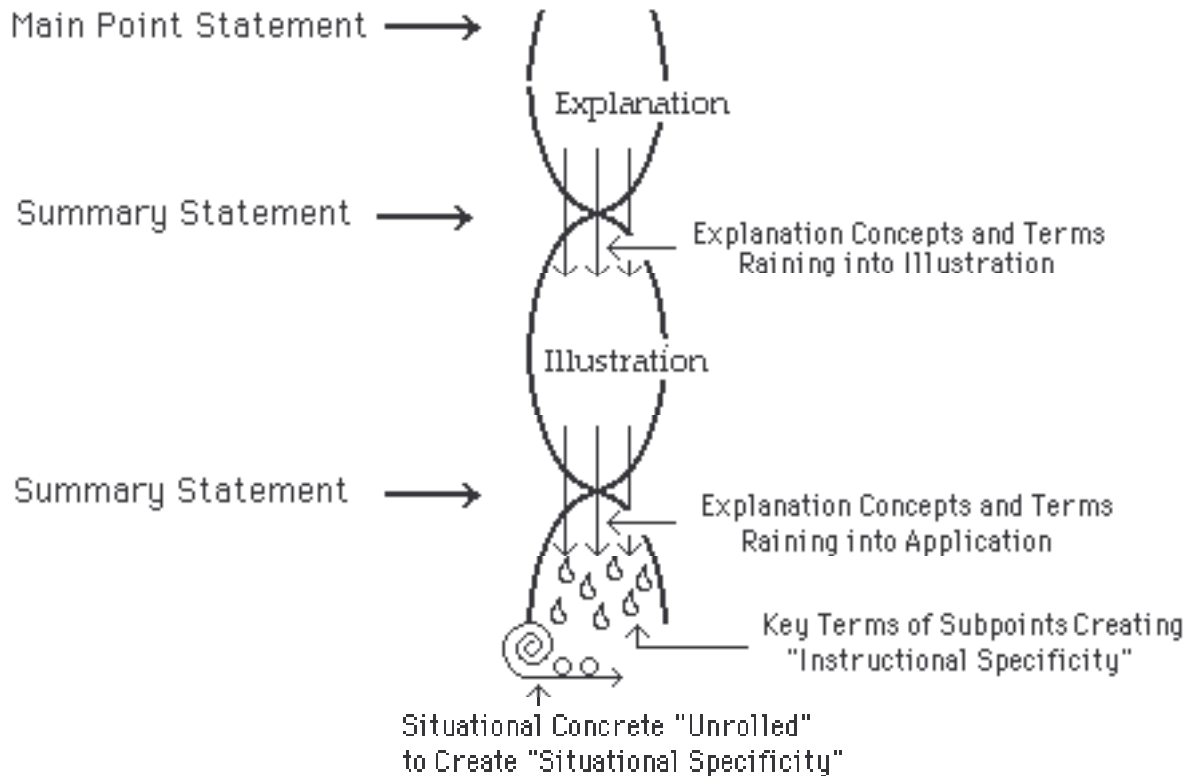
IV. What Enables People to Apply Scriptural Truths?

- A. —————> **THINK**
- B. —————> **FEEL**
- C. —————> **DO (Praxis)**



V. How is Application Structured?

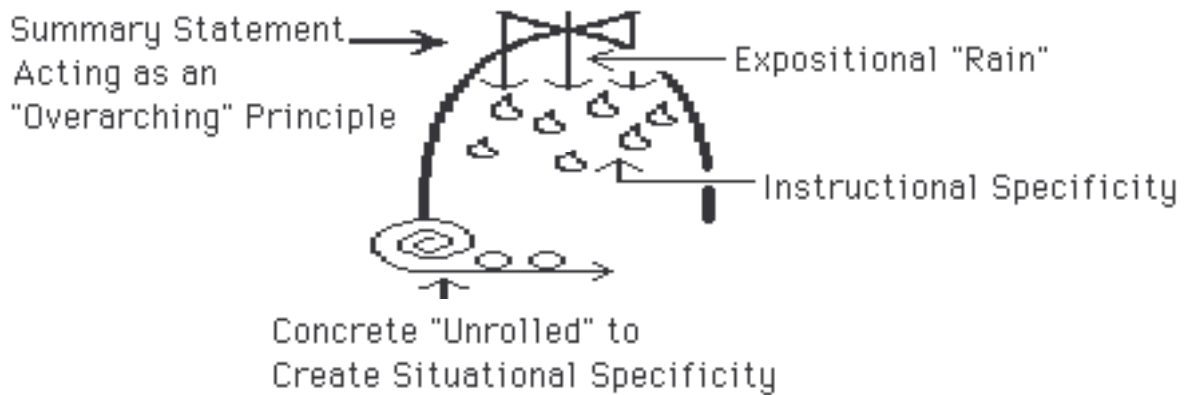
A. Charting Application in the Context of a Complete Main Point:



<> Instructional specificity comes from the text's exposition (concepts and terminology)

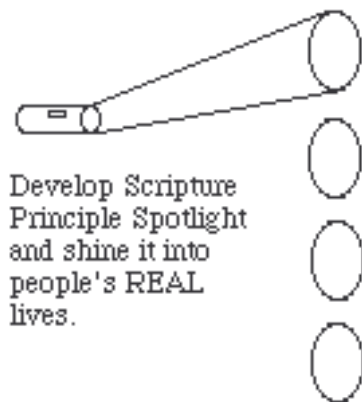
<> Situational specificity comes from the speaker's experience (personal and congregational) -- look at the subpoints and consider "who" deeply needs to know these truths in order to develop mature application.

B. Charting Application within the Applicational Component of a Main Point



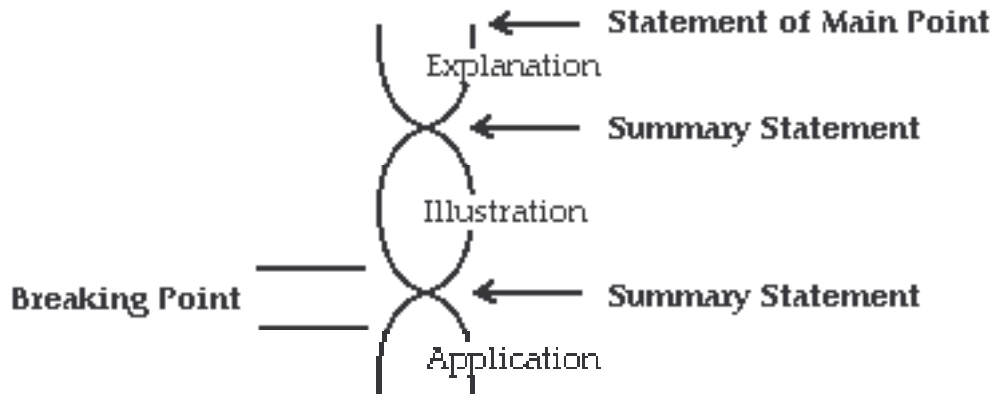
C. Charting Application in the "Situational Specificity" Stage:

Develop your application light fully in one concrete area then shine it briefly into other situational possibilities.



(Hint: a "double-edged sword" illustration may serve as the concrete)

VI. What Makes Application Difficult?



VII. How Do Preachers Overcome the Application Breaking Point?

A.

B.

C.

D.

<u>Gentleness</u>	vs.	<u>Forcefulness</u>	
II Tim. 2: 24-26		Titus 1: 10-13	
II Tim. 4: 2		Titus 2: 15	
I Thess. 2: 7-12			

E.

If only preacher decides, Christians do not grow.
 e.g., Philemon 8, 9, 14, 21
 II Cor 1: 23-24 & 2:9
 II Tim. 2: 24-26

F. Other ...

VIII. What are Cautions for Application in Expository Sermons?

IX. What are Proper Attitudes with which to Present Applications?

X. What are Some Key Hints for Preparing Application?

FINAL WORDS ON APPLICATION:

Assignment for Next Class: Reading #16: *Christ-centered Preaching*, pp. 260-265
Written Assignment #6 from Lecture 12 is due for Lecture 16.