



Franklin Avenue Baptist Church 11am Bible Study

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Context Changes Everything

Seeing Biblical Scripture Clearly to Live It Correctly

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2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

- “Rightly dividing” means **handling scripture correctly**.
 - Many misinterpretations do not come from bad intent, but from missing context.
- “A text without context can lead to misunderstanding.”

Context- ensures accurate interpretation by examining the **literary, historical, and cultural setting** of a passage. It involves looking at surrounding verses, the book's overall theme, and the original audience to avoid misunderstandings.

I. **David and Goliath** - Samuel 17:32–47 (KJV)

Common Teaching (What We’ve Heard)

“Be like David—face your giants and win.”

Context Breakdown

- David is not just a random brave boy.
- He is **God’s anointed king** (chapter 16)
- This is not just a personal victory; it is **God defending His people**.

Key Point:

“That all the earth may know that there is a God...”

This was not about David proving himself—

It was about **God revealing Himself**.

Core Truth

- David did not win because he was strong, he won because God was with him.
- The battle was never David’s... it was God’s.

What ‘giants’ have we been trying to fight in our own strength?

Have we made this story about us instead of God?

- You are not called to be the hero, God is!
- Our role is **faith and obedience**, not self-reliance

When we remove context, we put pressure on ourselves that belongs to God.



II. Mary & Martha in the house - Luke 10:38–42 (KJV)

Common Teaching (What We've Heard)

Do not be busy like Martha, just be like Mary.

- Martha is not rebuked for serving.
- She is corrected for being:
 - Distracted
 - Overwhelmed
 - Anxious

The issue is not **service**

The issue is **state of heart**.

Core Truth

You can be doing the right thing with the wrong spirit.

- Are we ministering or just attending church?
- Are we serving from a place of peace or pressure to be seen?

Discussion

- Have you ever been doing something good, but felt drained and frustrated?
- What does it look like to serve from a place of connection with God?
- The Bible is not meant to be skimmed—it is meant to be understood.
- Misinterpretation leads to misapplication.

Context does not change the truth, it reveals it.

Reflection Question

What scripture have you possibly misunderstood because you did not have the full context?

Do not just quote scripture, study it. Do not just hear it, try to understand it. Because when you understand it correctly, you can live it powerfully.

III. The Good Samaritan Who Is My Neighbor? - Luke 10:25–37 (KJV)

Common Teaching

Help people and be nice.

Context Breakdown (This is where it gets powerful)

- The question was not “How do I be nice?”
It was: “*Who is my neighbor?*”
- The shock in the story:
- The **priest** did not help.
- The **Levite** did not help.
- The **Samaritan** did



Samaritans were **despised and rejected** by Jews.
So, when Jesus Christ made the Samaritan the hero...
He challenged **bias, prejudice, and religious pride**.

Core Truth

Your neighbor is not just the person you like; it is the person you would normally avoid.

- It is easy to love people who:
 - Look like us.
 - Agree with us.
 - Worship like us.

But this story stretches us beyond comfort.

Discussion Questions

- “Who do we subconsciously avoid?”
- “Do we treat some people as less deserving of compassion?”
- “Have we limited love to people who feel safe to love?”
- We do not just minister to people we are comfortable with.
- Ministry requires compassion beyond preference.

You cannot truly minister if you pick who deserves it.

What did we learn?

1. **David & Goliath** → God is the hero.
2. **Mary & Martha** → Heart matters in service
3. **Good Samaritan** → Love crosses boundaries.

Independent Study

Jesus calms the storm: Mark 4:35-41; Matthew 8:23-27

Common Teaching:

Context Breakdown:

Core Truth: