



SO WHAT? HOW TO?

Application and Testimony

ABSTRACT

This template can be used anytime you want to put in writing what your application is for a series or topic that has spanned multiple weeks. It also provides a way for you to think about how you can share your testimony on this application with others and explain to them what brought you to this change or application in your life.

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[Gathering Together](#)

WRITING YOUR APPLICATION

DEFINITION

APPLICATION:

- Is, Personal.
- Is, the act of putting to use or putting into operation especially for some practical purpose.
- Begins with belief and results in being and doing.
- Motivates you to respond and make changes.
- Is, making a relevant truth a personal truth, and involves developing a strategy and action plan to live your life.

It is not:

- Accumulation of knowledge. While this helps us discover and understand, it does not help us change. The Goal is not simply to understand, there are many who understand but do not believe or change.
- Application is not just illustration. Illustration only tells us how someone else handled a similar situation. While we may empathize with that person, we still have little direction for our personal situation.
- Application is not just making a passage "relevant." Making the Bible relevant only helps us to see that the same lessons that were true in Bible times are true today; it does not show us how to apply them to the problems and pressures of our individual lives.

GOALS

You can't communicate something you have never experienced in your own life.

- Putting the truth, you have discovered into use in you daily life.
- Documenting for yourself and others how the scriptures applied to your life at a point in time.
- Responding in faith to what God has shown and revealed to you.
- Transforming your Life.
- Being able to explain to someone if they ask why you believe what you do.

KEY ITEMS TO BE WATCHFUL FOR

- **Note:** It is about how the scriptures apply to you, not what does this verse mean to me.
- **Note:** It is not about 'Is this relevant to my life?' All of God's Word is relevant to your life. The true question is 'Are you willing to believe the truth, trust God, and apply it to your life.'

Dangers to be mindful of:

1. Substituting interpretation for application. (This is what the Pharisees did)
2. Substituting rationalization for not wanting it to be true.
3. Assuming your application is everyone's application. God speaks to each person on an individual level. While the truth is relevant for all, how God may lead the application will be different for each person, and possibly different for each individual based on where they are in their lives at the moment.

WRITE A SUMMARY

Start by writing a summary of what God has reveal to you during you Observation and Interpretation. Do not rush.

NOTE: WHILE THIS GUIDE IS BROKEN INTO TWO PARTS YOU MAY FIND THAT AS YOU ARE WRITING IN ONE AREA YOU ARE ANSWERING THE QUESTION IN ANOTHER. DO NOT TRY TO UNTANGLE THIS, LET IT BE, THIS IS NOT AN EXERCISE TO BE PERFECTED BUT A RESOURCE TO AIDE YOU IN PUTTING ON PAPER WHAT GOD HAS BEEN SPEAKING TO YOU.

WHAT AREAS OF YOUR LIFE CAME TO MIND DURING THIS TIME

I have noticed in my own study that God will bring circumstances and events to my mind during my observation and interpretation. What are some of those for you? What was God saying to you about them?

ACTION PLAN

Having looked at all of this, what is your action plan that you want to put in place. Be specific about the steps you will take in the days, weeks, and months ahead to make this scripture alive in your life. Be sure to include in your plan why you are taking this action. ACTION SHOULD BE MOTIVATED BY LOVE, NOT LEGALISM OR A LIST OF SHOULD.

You can use the following Table as a guide or write this action plan in whatever way fits you.

**SOW A THOUGHT, REAP AN ACTION.
SOW AN ACTION, REAP A HABIT.
SOW A HABIT, REAP A CHARACTER.
SOW A CHARACTER, REAP A DESTINY!**

Action Step	Why? What Motivates me to take this action?	When will I take this action?



So What? How To?

DO YOU HAVE A TESTIMONY IN THIS AREA

Romans 1:12 tells us: *When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours.*

Write down how God has used this time and study together in your life. We want to grow by your faith.