

## **I. Avoid Frameworks Overriding the Text**

A framework/lens/system is coming to the text with a particular perspective in place that overrides the text and alters your view.

### **A. Examples of Frameworks**

1. Political (ex: OT walls in Ezra–Nehemiah as grounds for border policy)
2. Theological (ex: every drop of water in Bible pointing to immersion)
3. Cultural (today’s definition of justice imposed on Bible’s definition/usage of justice)
4. Tradition (“I’ve always heard it preached this way”)
5. Translation (“KJV says x, y, z”)
6. Personal Experience/Self-Centered
  - a) Illustration: Romans 8:31–39; 18-26
    - (1) Framework over Text: 8:31–39 as a declaration of daily personal victory
    - (2) Text over Framework: 18-30 clarifying that victory is through Christ in spite of suffering, not without suffering

### **B. How to avoid allowing frameworks to rule the text**

1. Be aware of your framework
2. Don’t run to commentaries or study Bibles first
3. Wrestle with meaning before application
4. Invite feedback from others (who’ve studied as well)

## **II. The Best Framework: Look for Connections with Christ**

1. Is this legitimate? (Luke 24:25-27; John 5:39)
2. “Every text is predictive of the work of Christ, preparatory for the work of Christ, reflective of the work of Christ, and/or resultant of the work of Christ.” Bryan Chapell, *Christ-Centered Preaching* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994), 275

## **III. Apply the Text to Yourself**

### **A. Apply to Mind, Heart, and Will**

1. Is there something for me to know?
2. Is there something for me to love?
3. Is there something for me to do?

*These notes were prepared by Pastor Charles Huckaby for Ramah’s How to Study Your Bible Conference. Much of the content is derived from his personal notes taken at previous preaching workshops under the instruction of men like Tom Buck and others. Any helpful content is due to them and should be attributed to them.*