

A few points and questions to consider:

Referenced in today's study was Albert Mohler's "A Call for Theological Triage and Christian Maturity." A copy of this article is included as part of this week's downloadable documents. Take time to read this article then – based on the truths of this week's scripture passage – pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal issues, items, etc. that you may have been guilty of making "first-level / first-order" theological doctrine that rightfully should be considered "second-order" or "third-order" issues.

Note those below.

As Pastor Brad noted in his closing comments, when we elevate the "non-essentials" or "second- or third-order" matters to "essential" or "first-order" issues, we often do so at the expense of considering that matter more important than the person with whom we may disagree on that point. Pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal anyone you may have devalued in this way – possibly even resulting in a strained relationship – and consider if reconciliation is needed. If so, then prayerfully seek out that person(s) and restore fellowship with her / him.

Once again, we encourage you to dig a little deeper into this passage by preparing a HEAR Report. As noted in previous weeks, HEAR is an acronym for Highlight, Explain, Apply, Respond.

- Read thru this passage and HIGHLIGHT a verse(s) that you found especially powerful.
- EXPLAIN the verse. What was the context and purpose for what was written and when it was written.
- APPLY the verse to yourself
- Lastly, RESPOND to the verse. Maybe there are changes God wants you to make in your life w.r.t. the verse. Or your response may be a prayer to God. It may be praising Him. However you feel led to respond.

As has been pointed out by others, the goal isn't for you / me to jot down a "profound truth" but to note the "truth you found."

Please email us and let us know how this passage spoke to you. Also let us know if you have any general comments, suggestions, etc. for this midweek Bible study program. *We want and need to hear from you.* Email address: connect@madisonavenuebc.org

Name: _____

H.E.A.R. REPORT for _____ (Bible passage).

Highlight a verse(s)

Explain what the text means.

Possible questions to consider: *Why was this written? To whom was it originally written? How does it fit with the verses immediately before and after it? Why did the Holy Spirit include this passage in the book? What is He intending to communicate through this text?*

Apply "the significance of these verses to you personally"

Possible questions to consider: *How can this help me? What does this mean to me? What would the application of this verse look like in my life? What does this mean to me? How does this apply to my family, my church family, my community? What is God saying to me?*

Respond

Matthew 7:7 (ESV), "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

Source: Growing Up, Robby Gallaty