

Study Guide for “Explaining Contextualization” (video)

Review Questions

1. What do people often understand contextualization to be?
2. What is contextualization? What is the most fundamental part?
3. All theology is _____.
4. How does God contextualize his self-revelation in the Bible?
5. The Bible itself is a _____.
6. List two types of contextualization
7. Contextualization is about _____.
8. When contextualizing, we want to avoid _____

9. We compromise _____ when we settle for _____.

10. What are a few goals of contextualization?

11. Healthy contextualization is biblically _____ and culturally _____.

Reflection Questions

1. Why is contextualization essential and unavoidable?
2. Explain each type of contextualization. Which do you understand more? Less? Why?
3. How might contextualized biblical teaching positively influence those who hear the message?
4. What aspects of ministry are affected by contextualization? Elaborate on your answers.
5. Explain both kinds of syncretism.
6. Which type of syncretism are you personally most likely to commit?

Response Questions

1. What are positive and negative impressions you have had of contextualization in the past? How have those impressions helped or hindered your ministry?

2. How might contextualized biblical teaching positively influence those who hear the message?

3. How might we develop empathy in order to contextualize better? Where do you tend to lack empathy, whether emotionally or cognitively?

4. In what ways might we compromise the gospel by settling for what is merely true?

5. How might the Bible need to shape your methods more and not simply your methods?

6. What aspects of contextualization do you need to learn more about? What steps can you take to grow in this area?