

# THE ARMY OF GOD

## Application

Foundation: Application is the practice of what you've been indoctrinated with

### I. Knowledge is for execution, learning is for practice

#### A. Ph4:9-The things that you learn, receive and hear you are supposed to do

1. *AM-The things which you have learned, received and heard and seen in me, practice these things in daily life; CEB-Practice these things: whatever you learned, received, heard or saw in us; GN-Put into practice what you learned; AC-Model your way of living on it; CEV-You know the teachings I gave you, and you know what you heard me say and saw me do. So follow my example; EXB-Do what you learned and received and heard; TLB-Keep putting into practice all that you learned from me and saw me doing; VO-Keep to the script: whatever you learned and received and heard and saw in me – do it*
2. Learn-Increase in knowledge; Increase in knowledge is for application
  - a. We indoctrinate you not just to fill your head with knowledge but to change the way you operate
3. Do-Practice, perform repeatedly (not a single act), execute, exercise, be busy with
  - a. The navy seals often use the word “execute” for the go command (Captain Phillips scene)

#### B. James 1:22-Why would he have to tell us this in Ph4:9? Because you can be a hearer only and not a doer (Performer)

1. Do we need to be on guard against being a hearer only? Is this really an issue? Why would He even tell us this?
  - a. *ER-Do what God's teaching says: don't just listen and do nothing. When you only sit and listen, you are fooling yourselves; TL-It is a message to obey, not just to listen to*
2. The deception is 1) Thinking you're a doer b/c you've heard it
  - a. *CJ-Don't deceive yourselves by only hearing what he Word says; TP-Don't just listen to the Word of truth and not respond to it, for that is the essence of self-deception*
3. The deception is 2) Thinking it'll work for you because you heard it
  - a. *Lk11:28-AMP-Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey and practice it*
    - 1) Just calling yourself blessed doesn't mean you'll be blessed – Doers of the word are blessed
  - b. Luke 6:46-49-You can come and hear the word all the time and get the same results the world gets b/c you're not delivered by what you know, but by what you do

### II. We listen to the Word, we spend time in the Word for learning with application as our intention

#### A. Lk8:18-How do you listen? We listen with the intention of doing what we're hearing

1. Ez33:31-32-They're listening, but have no intention of doing what they're hearing
  - a. *TL-They come as though they are sincere and sit before you listening, but they have no intention of doing what I tell them. You are very entertaining to them, like someone who sings lovely songs with a beautiful voice or plays well on an instrument. They hear what you say, but don't pay any attention to it; CEV-They come & listen to you but refuse to do what you tell them*
  - b. Many come to church and listen with no intention of doing one thing they're hearing: Mot just listen and kind of hope to remember and just put into practice a little of what they hear
  - c. How do you listen? Do you have any intention of doing anything you're hearing?

#### B. Ez33:31-32-Why do you listen? We listen for learning and application

1. They are not listening for the sake of application, they are listening for other reasons
  - a. *VO-They come to you, just as people flock to see someone famous. My people sit at your feet and seem to hang on your every word, but they never apply those sacred instructions to their own lives. To them you are nothing more than a gifted singer of lustful songs, a teller of tales, a master of instruments! They hear what you say but fail to put any of it into practice; MS-They love to hear you talk, but nothing comes of it*
  - b. Why do you listen to someone sing or play an instrument? It's pleasing to you and you like how hearing it makes you feel; You're not listening for learning and application – That's not why or how you listen to preaching

#### C. 2Tm3:14-4:4-You can't become a good soldier if you can't bare the stuff that's supposed to train, teach and equip you

1. A lack of concept of what's supposed to be happening when you're in this Word can cost you your development
2. 14-What you learn you're to continue in; Most don't continue in it, they hear it and that's pretty much the end of it
3. When you're hearing the word preached, spending time in the word what's the aim? What's the purpose?
  - a. 15-Wisdom is an aim-When I'm in the Word I'm looking to hear something that increases wisdom
  - b. 16-Instruction/Learning is an aim-Looking for stuff that instructs/teaches [Doctrine-Teaching, instructing, learning]
  - c. 16-Correction is an aim-Looking for correction so I can make adjustments in how I'm living [Reproof-To bring to the light, expose, correct, show one his fault; Correction-Straightening up, improvement of life and character]
  - d. 16-Training is in an aim-I'm looking to be trained challenged, corrected [Instruction-Training]
4. 17-This wisdom, instruction, learning, correction, training is what furnishes and equips you to be a good soldier
5. Is this what most expect to hear, want to hear when they're in the Word or when someone is preaching to them?
  - a. Not all preaching is preaching the Word; Preaching the Word includes: 1.Reprove-Bring to light, expose, correct, show one fault 2.Rebuke-Admonish/charge sharply 3.Exhort-Advise, warn, caution, stir up by words, instruct
6. 4:2-Many listen b/c they want to hear something pleasant [Lusts-Desire; Itching-Desire to hear something pleasant]
  - a. When you scratch an itches it feels good; Many want to hear something that makes them feel good
  - b. To many preaching is supposed to be a nice PICK ME UP and if it doesn't make them feel good, they don't want to hear it; Anything that corrects or challenges them they have an aversion to, they don't want to hear; Don't mess with my life, just encourage me and make me feel better
  - c. Let's not think about other people let's think about your itch and do you want it scratched?
7. Many listen for encouragement and have no concept of listening for learning and application
  - a. Encouragement only without instruction leaves you feeling better, but not equipped to live better
  - b. Life's bad > feel bad > encouragement > feel better > don't know better > can't do better > life's the same > feel bad > need more encouragement
  - c. Ph4:9-He didn't say let these things encourage you; He said do them
  - d. I listen to be trained, not entertained, not to feel better – But to know better so I can do better and live better
  - e. Just b/c it was emotional doesn't mean it was spiritual; Just b/c it made you feel good doesn't mean it was God
8. Many aren't really interested in growing or developing, they just want to come to church and hear something that requires nothing of them and makes them feel a little better
  - a. Victimhood will hear all correction as condemnation because as long as I'm the victim I don't have to change
  - b. Your feelings are hurt and you're supposed to be executing

### III. Hb5:13-14-Good soldiers become good through practice (NOT just learning alone)

#### A. Can we be unskillful/skillful in spiritual things? Can you get/be better in spiritual things? (Not more acceptable)

1. Can you be more skillful in love, faith, hearing God's voice, prayer? This concept is foreign to many
2. 1Th4:9-10-They are walk in love and doing in at a high level and he says do it at a higher level
3. 1Th3:10,2Th1:3-Their faith went from lacking to growing exceedingly
4. 2Pet3:18-Grow in grace and in the knowledge (moral wisdom seen in right living) of our Lord
5. Lk6:40-This speaks to training, skill and development
6. Eph6:17-The word of God is the sword of the spirit-Can you get better with that sword?
7. Eph6:16-It's the shield of faith-Can you get better with that shield?
8. Let's not just speak hypothetically, but let's ask directly, are you getting more skillful in these things?

#### B. We're supposed to be practicing and getting more skillful in spiritual things

1. Many are unskillful (inexperienced, without experience) because they don't practice; *13-CJB-Anyone who has to drink milk is still a baby, w/o experience in applying the word; MSG-Inexperienced in God's ways*

2. To get skillful in anything you have to practice- *14-ESV-Trained by constant practice; NL-Who through training have skill*
  - a. Use-Practice, habit, power acquired by practice
3. It's great that you came to class, but skill can't be developed until you go practice what you learned
  - a. EX: My first golf lesson new grip and new takeaway and it felt awkward

IV. Js1:22-26-The word you don't stay hooked to you will NOT be a doer of - It's a scriptural fact