

Gospel Contextualization
New York Co-Worker's Fellowship
Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Chapter 7: Intentional Contextualization

1. On page 89, bottom left, Keller gives us a definition of Gospel Contextualization.
 - a) How many parts are involved in contextualization?
 - b) Which part(s) do you generally follow? Which parts do you overlook?
2. Keller states on page 90, bottom right that skillful contextualization is a key to effective ministry today because it a) doesn't simply change behavior, it changes a person's world view and b) Will show people their aspirations and hopes can only be fulfilled in Jesus. How is contextualization able to do this?
3. On page 94, left middle column, Keller states "As soon as you choose words, you are contextualizing and you become more accessible to some people and less so to others. There is no universal presentation of the gospel for all people."
 - a. What are some examples of how contextualization can draw some people closer while simultaneously pushing others away?
 - b. If a universal presentation of the Gospel does not exist, how do we separate culture from the gospel?
4. Keller declares on page 96 that is necessary for us to **INTENTIONALLY** Contextualize the gospel because "All ministry and communication are already heavily adapted to a particular culture."
 - a. Do you agree or disagree with Keller?
 - b. Does this in any way change how you will prepare your sermons henceforth?

Chapter 8: Balanced Contextualization

5. On page 102, Keller uses two illustrations to highlight why "two-way" communication is necessary to have a balanced contextualization. What illustrations did Keller use and what do they show?

Chapter 9: Biblical Contextualization

6. Keller points out that three passages helped him to develop his view on contextualization. Can someone quickly summarize what those passages were and how Keller saw them supporting contextualization?
7. On pages 114-115, Keller provides six ways people are persuaded.
 - a. How many of the six were you aware of/have tried?
 - b. Which one(s) do you generally gravitate to?
 - c. In light of this material how will your future appeals to people to come to God change?

Chapter 10: Active Contextualization

8. Keller begins this chapter with an interesting illustration to show what we need to do to effectively contextualize the gospel. What illustration does Keller use and what does it show?
9. Keller suggests the use of “A” and “B” doctrines. What are these doctrines and how are we to use them together?
10. On page 127 Keller points out that viewing sin as idolatry is very effective when speaking to the post-modern generation. For what reasons is sin seen as idolatry effective?
11. On pages 128-129, Keller presents “other pressure points” on which pastors can challenge their congregation. What are your thoughts regarding Keller’s approach to these pressure points?
12. On page 130, Keller presents five models or “grammars” of atonement. Which of these have you used/have you overlooked up to now?