*The purpose of this session is to practically experience inductive Bible Study with a Christ-Centered application through an examination of 1 Samuel 17:1-54.[[1]](#footnote-1)*

**I. Christ-Centered Applications**

Read Luke 24:44-49

Christ-Centered preaching rightly understood does not seek to discover where Christ is mentioned in every text but to disclose where every text stands in relation to Christ (Chapell 279).

A message that merely advocates morality and compassion remains sub-Christian even if the preacher can prove that the Bible demands such behaviors. By ignoring the sinfulness of humankind, which makes even our best works tainted before God (Isa. 64:4; Luke 17:10), and by neglecting the grace of God, which makes obedience possible and acceptable (1 Corinthians 15:10; Eph. 2:8-9), such messages necessarily subvert the Christian message (Chapell 274).

**II. Christ-Centered Disclosures** (Chapell 281–88)

**A. Text Disclosure**

A direct reference within a passage to the person or work of Christ. Example - Colossians 1:15-20

**B. Type Disclosure**

Typology as it relates to Christ’s person and work is the study of the correspondences between persons, events, and institutions that first appear in the Old Testament and preview, prepare, or more fully express New Testament salvation truths. Examples – Adam, David, Melchizedek, the Passover, the temple, etc.

**C. Content Disclosure** – Passages where the content itself must be put in the greater context of God’s redemptive work in Jesus. The four categories of content disclosure that Chapell highlights include: Predictive, preparatory, reflective, and resultant.

**1. Predictive of the work of Christ** – Predict the redemptive work of Christ by mentioning his coming person or work. Example – Isaiah 9 and the other servant songs

**2. Preparatory** – Texts that may make no specific mention of Jesus, but nevertheless prepare us for the work or person of Jesus. Example – the law as preparation for Christ in Galatians 2:15-21

**3. Reflective** – Passages that demonstrate the nature of God’s grace and/or the wickedness of humanity that needs saving. Examples – Psalm 136, 1 Timothy 1:15

**4. Resultant** – “Christ’s work unites us to him and releases us from the guilt and the power of our fallen condition. Now what we do in faith as those whose pasts he sanctifies, whose resolves he strengthens, and whose futures he secures must be seen as a result of what he has done and is doing in and through us (1 Cor. 15:16-17, 58; Phil. 1:12-13; 1 Pet. 4:10-11).” Chapell 288

**II. Interpreting Narratives**

Climax

The Narrative Arc

Falling Action

Resolution

Rising Action

Problem

Intro or Set Up

**III. Interpreting Narratives with a Christ-Centered Application –** 1 Samuel 17:1-54

1. What is the Set Up or Intro to this Narrative?

2. What is the problem in this narrative?

3. What is the rising action?

4. What is the climax?

5. What is the falling action?

6. How does the narrative find resolution (if at all)?

7. What type of disclosure is this narrative? In other words, how does this narrative reveal Jesus as the Hero?

1. Chapell, Bryan. Christ-Centered Preaching: Redeeming the Expository Sermon. 2nd ed, Baker Academic, 2005. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)