

Welcome!

Please Mute your phone
or webcam mic after
greeting everyone.

We'll get started in a few



MPC

Morningstar
Pentecostal Church

Context Is Everything

Bible Study March 26, 2020
Lauren Pallante

Welcome everyone – please put yourself on mute as you enter.
Let's open with prayer.

Housekeeping

1. Again, please mute your phone yourself because if I do it, it's going to be more difficult to open up for questions and comments.
2. If you are joining with your video or webcam – please make sure the webcam mic is muted and keep in mind others can see you.
3. I am going to share the presentation on my screen so you can read the scriptures with me.
4. The notes from tonight's lesson will be available on the website so you can view/download for those of you who are using the conference number dial in only and not viewing the webinar.
5. Also I will post a link to the recording of this lesson on the website

PRESS RECORD

My topic tonight has nothing to do with the pandemic because honestly – like a lot of you, I need a break from it.

So we are going to focus on the word of God and keeping it in Context because context is everything.



**“a guy walks into
a bar..”**

Evangelist Wilma Carter

**MAN LOSES JOB & CATCHES WIFE CHEATING
ON THE SAME DAY. BUT THEN THIS HAPPENED.**

There's this little guy sitting inside a bar, just looking at his drink. He stays like that for half-an-hour.

Then, this big trouble-making truck driver steps next to him, takes the drink from the guy, and just drinks it all down.

The poor man starts crying. The truck driver says: "Come on man, I was just joking. Here, I'll buy you another drink. I just can't see a man crying."

"No, it's not that. Today's been the worst of my life. First, I overslept, was late to an important meeting. My boss, outraged just fired me.

When I left the building to my car, I found out it was stolen. The police, they said they could do nothing. I got a cab to return home, and after I paid the cab driver and the cab had gone, I found that I left my whole wallet in the cab.

I got home only to find my wife was in bed with the gardener. I left home and came to this bar. And when I was thinking about putting an end to my life, you show up and drink my poison ..."

So let's start out with a joke. (read)

If you ever wanted to know why context is important, listen to Sister Carter's jokes when she preaches.

At first they seem like no big deal, but when the context changes they are hilarious. Just like here – we pick up the story dead in the middle but even in the recap – we missed a key element that changes the whole perspective of the message.

Tonight we are going to look at scriptures that we use frequently out of context.

“I can do all things through
Christ which
strengtheneth me”



Really
Karen?

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Philippians 4:13 KJV

Use this
HORRIBLY
out of

context
and
frequently

If you can

do all
things
through
Christ why
cant I flag

or dance?

Why cant

some of

us sing?

Talking
about
suffering
not about
going after

what you
think you
want

11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, [therewith] to be content.

12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.



Philippians 4:11-13 KJV

Paul is saying I can endure all things for the gospel sake through Christ's strength.

Verse 11 is the key here - he specifically saying, I am talking about being in a state of want or lack – in fact he is saying in the verse before it I'm not asking you to do anything because I am in a state of want. I know what it is to want and I can handle it BECAUSE I can do all thing


This has nothing to do with trying to do something you aren't sure you can do.

For that go to Joshua 1 – be strong and very courageous. – without looking, does anyone know what Joshua 1:9 is?
CASHAPP

“Seek first the kingdom of God and all these things will be added unto you...”

So first, lets get the scripture right

But seek ye first the kingdom of
God, and his righteousness;
and all these things shall be
added unto you.



What
things?

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Matthew 6:33 KJV

[Mat 6:33 KJV] 33 *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

So this scripture is conditional – and it has 2 conditions

1. Seek Kingdom
2. Seek Righteousness

Righteousness is referring to the character of God in you so that you are in a state that is acceptable to him.

So its not just enough to seek the Kingdom of God and to do things for God, your character has to be reflective of his and you have to actively endeavor to be like God.

THEN these things shall be added to you – BUT WHAT THINGS?

He is referring to specific things – not the blessing of the week we think we should get for seeking God. Its not fair as ministers (in the general sense that we are all ministers of the word) we make promises to people out of context – because when it doesn't happen, we damage peoples faith. "Well you said if I seek the kingdom, I will get the things".

Its because these things don't refer to want, or even comfort, they refer to

need.

[Mat 6:31-33 KJV] 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.
33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.



Matthew 6:31-33 KJV

Matt 6:31-33 is what he is specifically referring to and it's a recap of the Model prayer or Lord's prayer in verses 9-13

The beginning of this chapter is the Lord's prayer a prayer of provision for what is needed, not what is wanted. (Matt 6:9 Known as the Lord's prayer)

These things are specific to something listed previously, specifically in verse 31-32

- Food
- Drink
- Clothing

They are not whatever we think they should be or what we want.
They are basic necessities to live.

The seeking is in prayer in this case. Going back to verse 9 – this is exactly how the Lord's prayer is modeled.

- He addresses the kingdom first
- Then daily bread.

IOW put God and his kingdom first in your prayer life and the basics come after. You don't even have to pray for them because they will be added to you. So even during this time, we don't have to hoard anything because we are

seeking his kingdom and his character – so he will provide the basics. So we should have no fear and no anxiety. Doesn't mean don't be wise. It means don't be afraid.

This verse is a summary of the demonstration Christ gave in prayer.

“I’m waiting for the signs, miracles and wonders!”

We pray this, we preach it, but we do it out of context.

We do our self a dis service in the way we phrase it because Waiting or Seeing is passive – there is no direct action on our part.

These are not things for us to witness to increase our faith, they are evidence of our faith in action.

3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard [him];

4 God also bearing [them] witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?



Hebrews 2:3-4

Heb 2:4

What exactly is he bearing witness to?

- Believers because believers receive the Holy Ghost (and its gifts)
- Bear witness means to observe something
- So there had to be an action or behavior for God to observe

Bearing witness means to unite in testimony, to attest - attest to things that already happened

(Yes God looks on the heart, also see but its present tense)

God is uniting in testimony of those who heard Christ and are confirming the accuracy of what Christ said according to verse 3

So there was an observable action, conversation or behavior God then joined to through a sign, miracle or wonder. IOW - they did something.

Specifically concerning the gospel of Christ - if we aren't teaching, preaching, sharing the gospel of Christ, don't expect SMW and wonders.

We are already doing them btw

Healing

Deliverance

Nothing hurting us

So how do we know they were active in this? Well, there is precedent.

22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:



Acts 2:22

Acts 2:22

Approved of God is the key part of the verse = point out, approve, declare
God did – Jesus performed the miracle, he didn't watch the miracle
He didn't wait for the miracle
HE DID THE MIRACLE

And the miracle provide the veracity of the gospel he preached and the faith he had in it.

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.



Mark 16:17-18

Signs follow, they don't precede faith.

Signs follow believers – the premise is believers are preaching the gospel as they are commanded.

So if we want signs, miracles and wonders we have to

1. Believe in the name
2. Be active and intentional in preaching the gospel
3. Be active and intentional in performing the signs miracles and wonders

If we aren't doing anything, we aren't giving God anything to confirm is true.

“If I be lifted up, I will draw men to me”
So lift up the name of Jesus!

Yeah...no. This has literally NOTHING to do with worship and how loud we say the name of jesus.

32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth,
will draw all [men] unto me.



John 12:32

[Jhn 12:32 KJV] 32 *And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all [men] unto me.*

Its literally lifting up of Christ to his crucifixion
Which every time in acts the Crucifixion was preached, it pricked men's hearts
and either drew them or repelled them from Christ
If our praise lifted up Jesus and drew men to him it would be in our power, not
his power.
But we know the word says

[Jhn 14:6 NKJV] 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No
one comes to the Father except through Me.

Just cause there is a song about it doesn't mean its right.
We aint all getting to heaven either... Matt 7:22-23 Depart from me ...

Where two are three are gathered....

20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.



Matthew 18:20

[Mat 18:20 KJV] 20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

ASK: So when we leave, God is no longer with us correct?

Are our prayers more valuable when we are together? Is there some special power that makes God manifest when we are physically present?

Matt 18:20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

[Mat 28:20 KJV] 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, [even] unto the end of the world. Amen.



Matthew 18:20 or Matthew 28:20

Which one is wrong?
Neither

Context of matt 18:20 is dealing with disagreement and discipline in the church
Start at Matt 18:15

its referring to establishing testimony in 2 or 3 witnesses
God stands in agreement bc God is truth

Matthew 18:18 f. this last stage of discipline at which the matter is finally disposed of by the church, let me assure you of two things: (1) Whatever you (in the church) declare to be unlawful on the one hand, or permissible on the other (see note on Matthew 16:19), will be held to be so in the sight of God; your judgment in regard to complaints brought before the church is accordingly ratified by divine warrant.

(2) If two of you agree as to anything that is to be asked in prayer, it will be given you by God; when, therefore, your hearts are thus united in prayer, you are assured of the divine help and illumination, in order that, in every case, you may arrive at and, in the church, give effect to decisions in accordance with the mind of God.

Judge not lest ye be judged...

IOW you cant judge me...we love this one to justify our own sin and our own hang ups.

1 Judge not, that ye be not judged.



Matthew 7:1

Mat 7:1 KJV] 1 *Judge not, that ye be not judged.*

English translation is grossly liberal

Greek is closer to the manner in which you judge is the manner in which you receive judgement

Never says not to judge

Yes you can correct people

Do not sit in judgment upon others; in a way that is obnoxious or self righteous to judgment, but judge in a manner that is forgiving so that you will be judged in the same manner when it is your time.

I know the thoughts that I think toward you...

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you

We use this to encourage and comfort when things are going wrong

11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

BUT this is actually an explanation of severe discipline for sin

This is to a people in open rebellion

In fact read verse 7 and the next verses – he is explaining the punishment he is giving them so they understand the end of it.

7 And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the LORD for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace....

10 For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.

11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

12 Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.

13 And ye shall seek me, and find [me], when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

14 And I will be found of you, saith the LORD: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive.



Jeremiah 29:11

Verse 12 – THEN is after the expected end of their discipline

Verse 13 – punishment is over but you still have to apologize – ever send a kid to their room and said they can come out after an hour if they apologize? That is Israel right now

Verse 14 – is speaking of restoration

So while no punishment feels good, there is an end result – that is for your good and not for evil.

In fact in verses 8-9 he is admonishing them not to see prophets for a word because they are prophesying falsely – and people were accepting it and being misled.

So to turn them to God he had to impose this 70 year exile – to get them back to where they needed to be with him. And it was unpleasant.

So for this one we don't necessarily use this in a bad way to encourage someone going through – just understand originally it was an explanation of the punishment they brought on themselves saying hey look, I'm not the bad guy here.

THE END

Notes will be available on the MPC Website as well as a recording of this lesson.



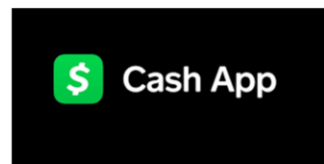
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\$MPCMOVES

Don't forget, keep giving because there is an end to this – and we want the lights on and the building ready to go.

This week we had 116 individual people view our website and over 200 views of our bishop in facebook! We don't have 200 people so we are reaching others – and when the time comes, we need a place for them to gather and connect with us so they can have an encounter with God.

So keep giving, keep sharing, keep in touch and I believe the church can grow when it looks impossible. The church at Jerusalem had to scatter to grow. It was the same church then as it is now.

UNMUTE for any questions or comments

Let's close in a word of prayer.