

Practically Speaking: How to Bring the Bible to (Your) Life

Michael R. Emler

I. Of skillets and slow cookers

a. “Hot skillet” vs. “slow cooker” application

b. The pronoun pathway to application

- i. Them—What was God emphasizing to his people in ancient times?
- ii. Him—How does this passage connect with Jesus Christ?
- iii. Us—How should it impact our lives now as saints, sufferers, and sinners?

c. Psalm 13 in a hot skillet

¹ How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? ² How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me? ³ Consider and answer me, O LORD my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death, ⁴ lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken. ⁵ But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. ⁶ I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

II. Psalm 13 in a slow cooker

a. Them

i. Questions to consider:

1. Based on the details of the passage, what is the main theme? What do you see as you continue to gaze at the passage?
2. What response do you think was intended? How might this message have affected the lives of the ancient audience?

ii. Overall movement of the psalm

1. Urgent questions (vv 1-2)
2. Desperate requests (vv 3-4)
3. Trust and hope (vv 5-6)

iii. Main theme: Cry out to God in the midst of suffering even when he seems distant, because of his steadfast love and bountiful care.

iv. Initial links to our lives

b. Him

i. Questions to consider:

1. Where else in Scripture do you see the theme of this passage?

