

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY



“Biblical theology studies how the whole Bible progresses, integrates, and climaxes in Christ.”



Biblical theology has a **narrative** focus.



Interpret the Bible through its **storyline**—understand where a text lies in **the story of redemption** that culminates in Christ.



Use a **timeline**.

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY



“Systematic theology discerns how a passage theologically coheres with the whole Bible.”



Systematic theology has a **logical** focus.



Interpret the Bible **with the whole Bible**—collect a number of texts and reason **how they fit together** to answer a theological question.



Combine and **summarize**.

HISTORICAL THEOLOGY



“Historical theology surveys and evaluates how significant exegetes and theologians have understood the Bible and theology.”



Historical theology has a **community** focus.



Interpret the Bible with **others**—learn from **teachers, dead and alive**, while you also test what they say by the Word.



Ask people **questions**.

PRACTICAL THEOLOGY



“Practical theology applies the text to yourself, the church, and the world by answering the question ‘How should we then live?’”



Practical theology has a **personal** focus.



Interpret the Bible for **obedience**—apply a text to the way you should **think, feel, and act**.



Plan to **obey**.