

RE»NEW

WHAT DO CHRISTIANS DO?

Email Q&A Questions to
anthony@severn.cc

**Sign up for a Renew Small
Group at severn.cc/renew**

Acts 2:42

**And they devoted themselves
to the apostles' teaching and
the fellowship, to the
breaking of bread and the
prayers.**

1. What is the Bible?

2 Timothy 3:16

**(16) All Scripture is breathed out
by God...**

SPIRITUAL

- **A book of God's words written down to give us God's life.**

PHYSICAL

- **Most authors wrote using their own intellect, skill, personality**
- **Old Testament = Before Jesus; Focus on Israel**
- **New Testament = After Jesus; Focus on Church**
- **One BIG story**

2. Why should I read the Bible?

2 Timothy 3:16-17

(16) All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, (17) that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Why read the Bible?

**To know God
*and...***

**learn to live the way he made us
*so that...***

we can be who he made us to be.

3. How can I read the Bible well?



RESOURCES



**GUIDING
PRINCIPLES**

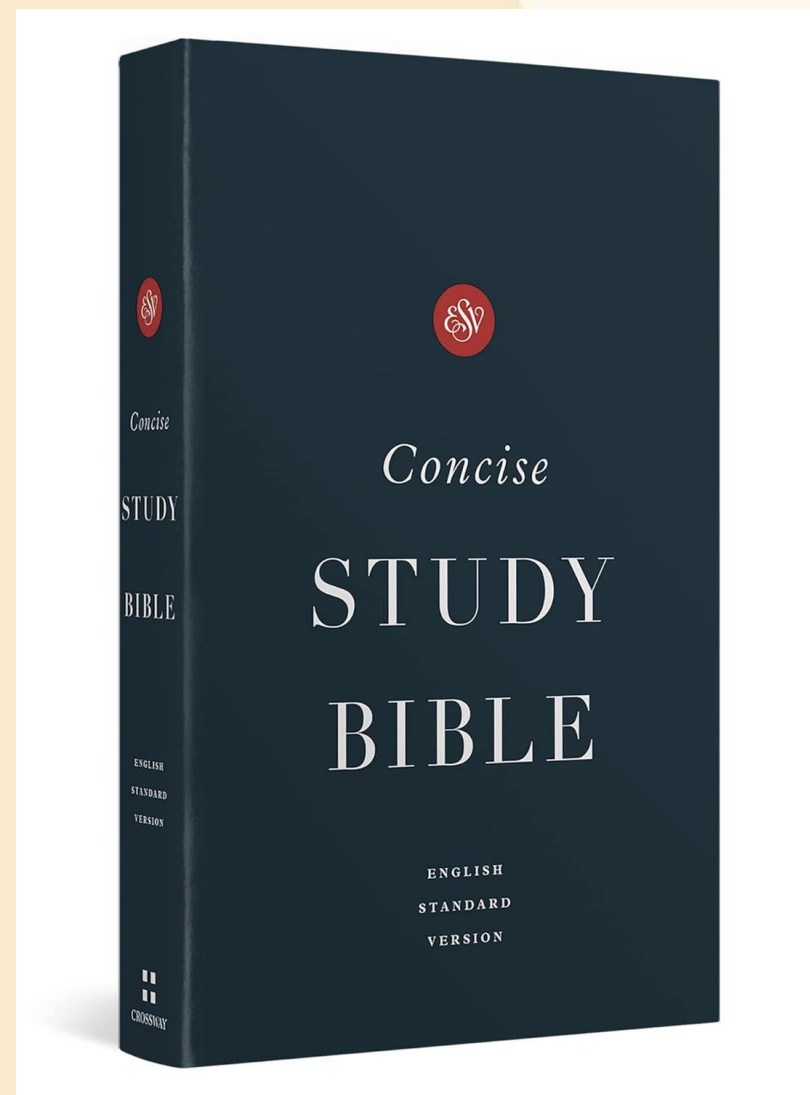
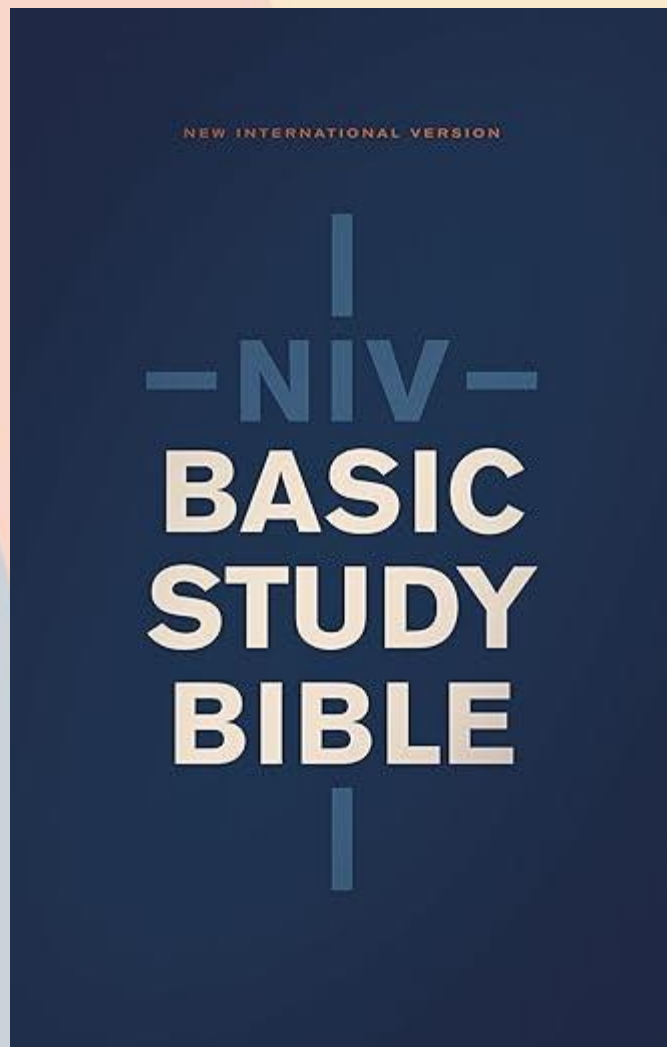


STRATEGIES

3 Necessary Resources



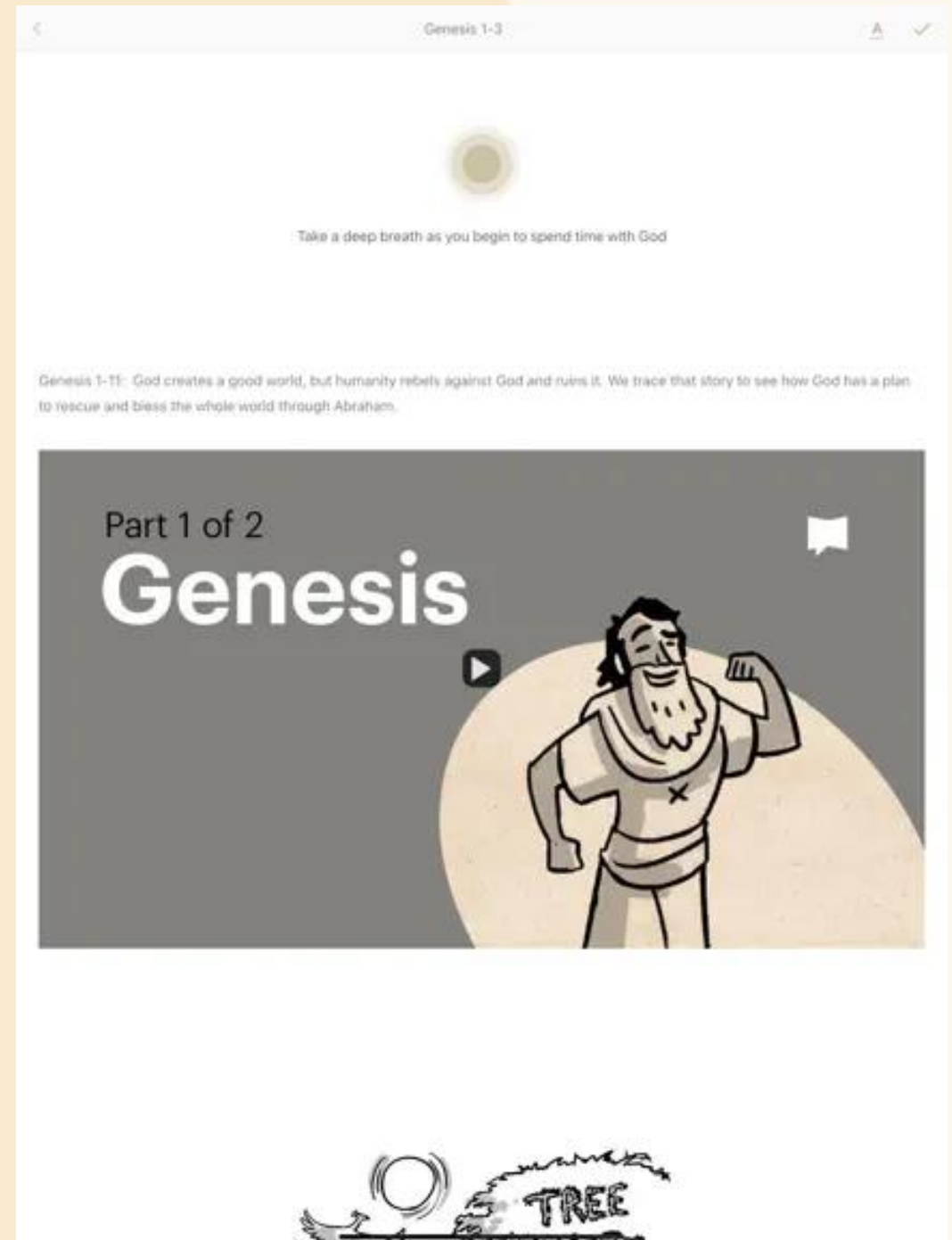
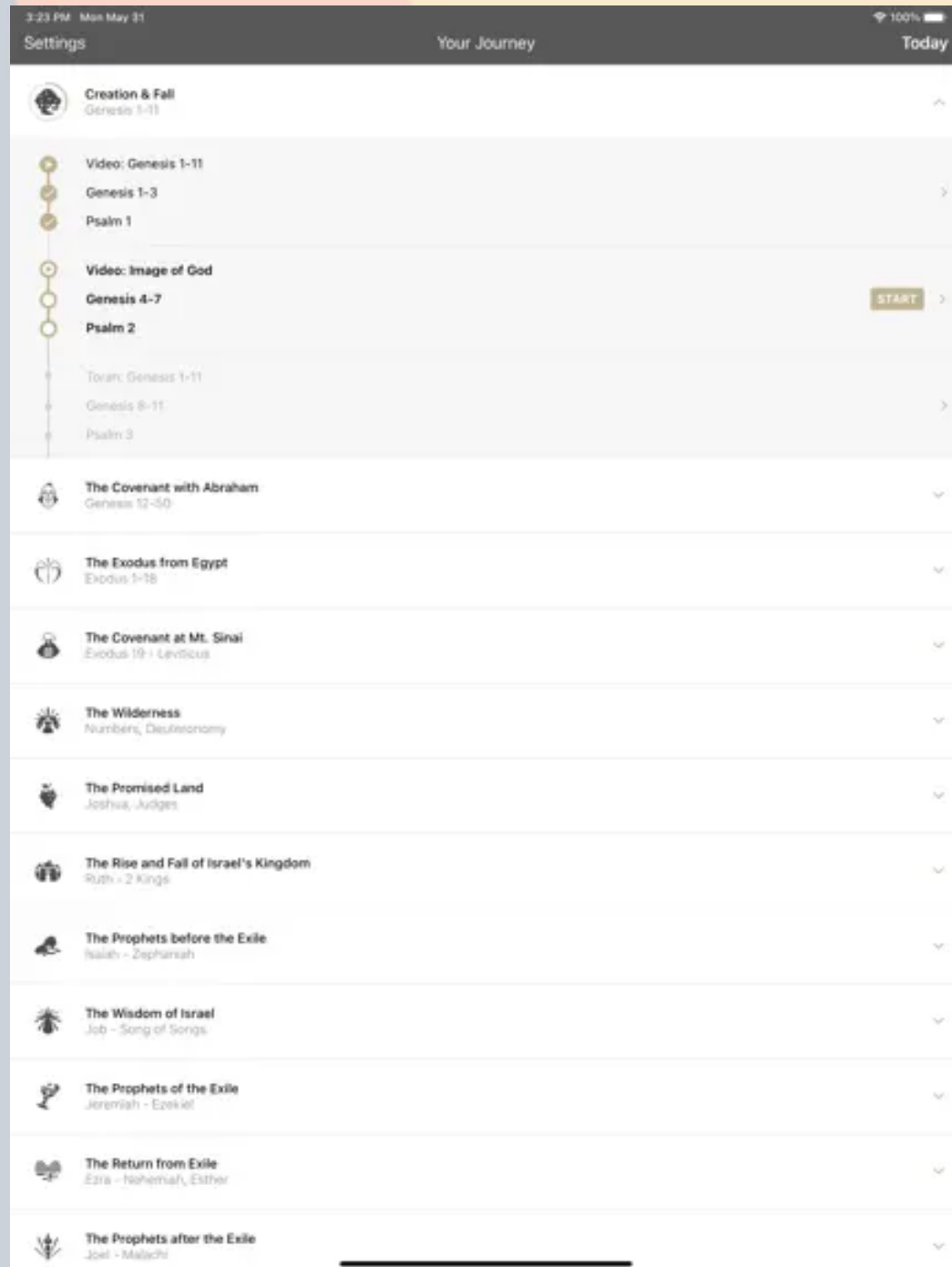
- **A good Bible translation**



3 Necessary Resources



- **A good Bible translation**
- **A notebook**
- **A digital device**
 - **Read Scripture App**



3 Necessary Resources



- **A good Bible translation**
- **A notebook**
- **A digital device**
 - **Read Scripture App**
 - **Blue Letter Bible.org**



even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

TOOLS



Jhn 3:15

That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

TOOLS



Jhn 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

INTERLINEAR

BIBLES

CROSS-REFS

COMMENTARIES

DICTIONARIES

MISC

TEXTUS RECEPTUS

3:16 Οὕτως γὰρ ἠγάπησεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν κόσμον ὥστε τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ τὸν μονογενῆ ἔδωκεν ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν μὴ ἀπόληται ἀλλ' ἔχῃ ζωὴν αἰώνιον

Forward

Reverse

Fwd Inline



Rev Inline



Recently Popular Pages

- G3908 - paratithēmi - Strong's Greek Lexicon (kjb)
- God Can Make You Strong by C. H. Spurgeon
- David Guzik :: 1 Corintios 7 – Principios Sobre el Matrimonio y la Soltería
- David Guzik :: Hechos 2 – El Espíritu Santo Es Derramado Sobre la Iglesia
- David Guzik :: Génesis 3 – La tentación y caída del hombre
- Therein, Thereinto, Thereof, Thereon, Thereout, Thereto, Thereunto, Thereupon, Therewith - Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words
- David Guzik :: Hechos 10 – Cornelio, Pedro, y la Conversión de los Gentiles
- David Guzik :: 1 Samuel 22 – David en la Cueva de Adulam, Saúl Asesina a los Sacerdotes
- Harmony of the Gospels - Study Resources - Study Resources
- David Guzik :: 1 Corintios 13 – Amor Agape

2 Guiding Principles



2 Timothy 2:7

Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

2 Guiding Principles



- **Humility**
- **Effort**

Strategies (6 P's)



1. Plan

A. Know yourself

B. Timing & Location

2. Pray

Strategies (6 P's)



3. Pore Over

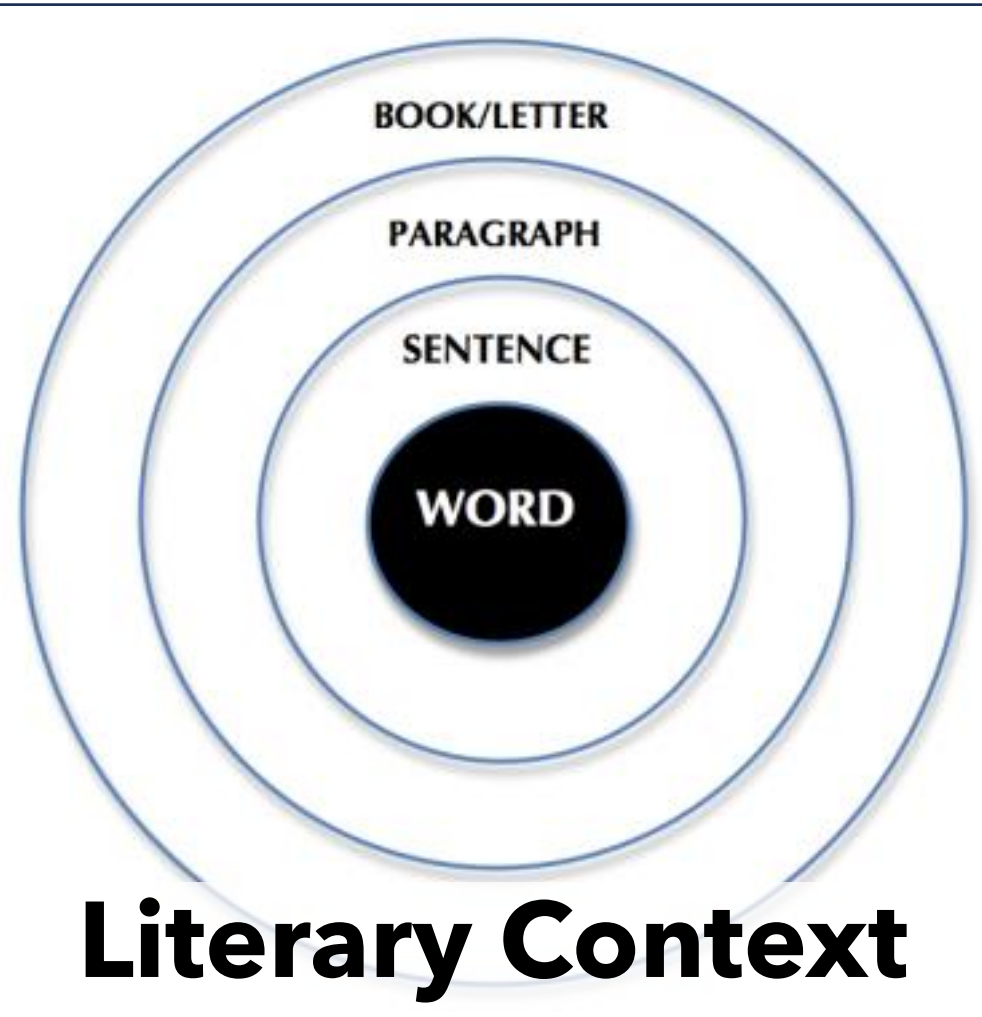
A. Zoom out before zooming in

B. Context, context, context!

Historical Context

Where do the characters in the story live?

What time period does the story take place in?



Who wrote the book?

To whom did they write it?

When did they write it?

Where did they write it?

What was their purpose?

What is that?
It's full of bags and
flies.

The men on the back are
swatting at them.

Grant just saw the garbage truck outside. His reaction was priceless...

“What is that? It’s full of bags and flies. The men on the back are swatting at them.”



Strategies (6 P's)



3. Pore Over

A. Zoom out before zooming in

B. Context, context, context!

i. Read entire book first

ii. ReadScripture App Videos

iii. Blue Letter Bible "Tools" Tab



BLUE LETTER BIBLE

HELP QUICKNAV ADV. OPTIONS

Verse or Word(s)

KJV



KJV

CLICK TO CHANGE



RETURN TO TOP

LINK

CITE THIS



PRINT

SHARE

FOLLOW



COPY

COPY OPTIONS

FORMAT BY: ☒ VERSE ☐ PARAGRAPH

☐ STRONG'S

☐ RED LETTER

AUDIO BIBLES

ESV Global Study Bible

Footnotes for John 3

John Fact #4: Born-again Christian

John Fact #9: So that you may believe

The Global Message of John

Introduction to John

The Setting of John

Glossary

Zechariah (Zechariah)

The Global Message of Amos

Nicodemus (John)

Physical Items Used by Jesus to Teach
Spiritual Truths

Witnesses to Jesus

The Work of the Trinity

1 John Fact #5: Eternal life

Sermon Notes for Genesis 11:1-9

Sermon Notes for Genesis 22:1

Sermon Notes for Genesis 22:1-2

Sermon Notes for Genesis 22:1, 2

Sermon Notes for Exodus 22:7-9

Sermon Notes for Leviticus 9:24-10:3

Sermon Notes for Numbers 21:5-9

Sermon Notes for Numbers 33:50-56

Sermon Notes for Deuteronomy 18:13

Sermon Notes for 2 Kings 7:1,2

Sermon Notes for Job 40:3,4

Sermon Notes for Amos 4:12

Sermon Notes for Zephaniah 3:17

Sermon Notes for Matthew 6:22

Sermon Notes for Matthew 12:31-32

Sermon Notes for Matthew 27:15-25

Sermon Notes for Matthew 27:22

Sermon Notes for Mark 4:40

Sermon Notes for Mark 8:37

Sermon Notes for Mark 8:37

Sermon Notes for Luke 8:22-25

Strategies (6 P's)



3. Pore Over

C. Play by the rules

D. Talk to the text

4. Pencil

5. Ponder

A. God, Gospel, Me

Strategies (6 P's)



6. Pray

***BONUS: Practice**

Modeling

God's Provision

¹⁰ I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

¹⁴ Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. ¹⁵ And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. ¹⁶ Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. ¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. ¹⁸ I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts

Paul thanks the Christians in Philippi for their support, and he shows how Jesus' self-giving love is the model for the Christian way of life.

Philippians



COPY

COPY OPTIONS

FORMAT BY: ☒ VERSE

ESV Global Study Bible

[Footnotes for Philippians 4](#)[Joy and Rejoicing in Philippians](#)[Philippians Fact #2: "hymn of Christ"](#)[The Global Message of Philippians](#)[Introduction to Philippians](#)[The Setting of Philippians](#)[New Testament: Theology and Key Dates](#)[New Testament Timeline](#)[Major Events in the Life of the Apostle Paul](#)[The Epistles](#)[Acts Fact #26: What happens next?](#)[The Global Message of Colossians](#)[Study Guide for 2 Corin](#)[Verse by Verse Study on](#)[\(C2000\)](#)

David Guzik

[Study Guide for Philippians](#)[2 Corintios 12 – La Fuerza](#)[Gracia en la Debilidad](#)[Filipenses 4 – Paz y Gozo](#)[las Circunstancias](#)[1 Timoteo 6 – Las Riquezas](#)[Piedad](#)[Hebreos 13 – Viviendo un](#)[Cristiana Positiva](#)[Study Guide for Deuteronomy](#)[Study Guide for John 15](#)[Study Guide for 2 Corinthians](#)[Study Guide for 1 Timothy](#)[Study Guide for Hebrews](#)

God's Provision

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of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

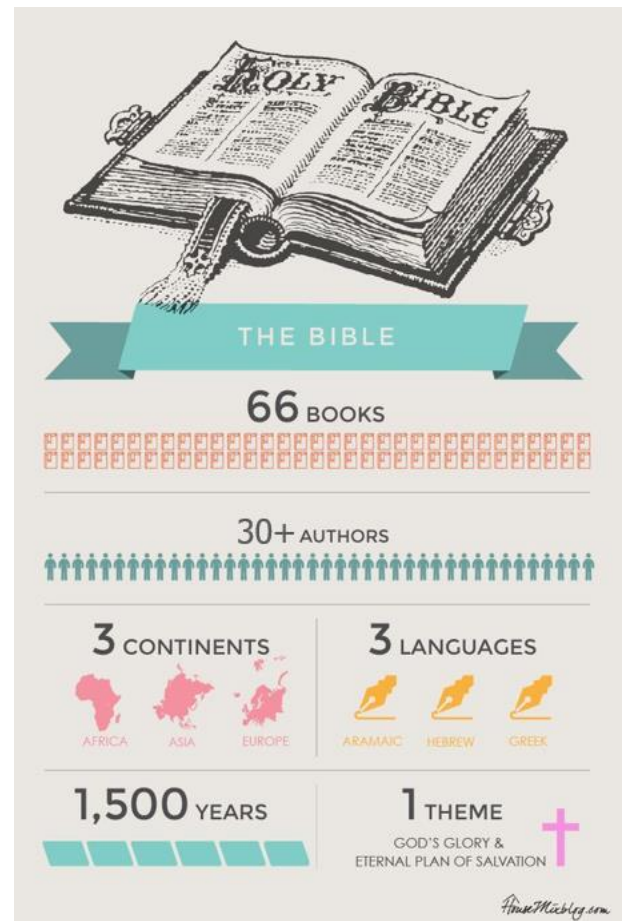
Straining Toward the Goal

Scripture

*And they devoted themselves to the **apostles' teaching** and the **fellowship**, to the **breaking of bread** and the **prayers**. (Acts 2:42)*

Spiritual

Physical



3. How do I read the Bible?

Resources

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

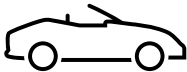
Guiding Principles

2 Timothy 2:7

1) _____

2) _____

Practical Strategies



1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

6) _____

??) _____

Discussion & Reflection Questions

Your group leader will choose 2-3 of these questions to discuss in the breakout meeting:

1. What did you find most helpful about this teaching? Why?
 2. What are the biggest challenges that might keep you (or have kept you) from consistently reading the Bible well? How do you think you can overcome those challenges?
 3. What would an ideal Bible-reading plan look like for you? In other words, how would you answer the "Timing & Location" questions we talked about during the class?
 4. Out of all the strategies and resources mentioned in tonight's class, which one do you personally think will prove most helpful for understanding and applying the Bible?
-

Weekly Challenges

In order to help you get started and grow in the discipline of studying Scripture, consider completing the following challenges over the next 3 weeks.

Week 1

1. Use the following template to make a personalized plan for Bible reading:
 - a. Timing: I will spend _____ minutes reading the Bible at least _____ times per week.
 - b. Timing: I will set an alarm to remind me to start my Bible reading time at _____ a.m./p.m.
 - c. Location: The place where I will read my Bible is _____.
 - d. Location: The book of the Bible where I will begin my reading is _____.
2. Try to read the entire book all the way through in as few sittings as possible. Jot down themes that stand out to you.
3. Watch the Read Scripture App video connected to the book you chose OR read the [ESV Global Study Bible](#) Introduction to the book you chose. Write down a few key things you learned.

Week 2

1. Look back over your previous week's Bible reading. Did you practice the plan you created? Do you need to make any adjustments to your plan?
2. This week, begin reading smaller sections of the book you chose - no more than 1 chapter at a time. Ask the following questions and jot down your answers:
 - a. What kind of literature am I reading (history, poetry, prophecy, etc.)?
 - b. If there is dialogue, who is speaking and to whom are they speaking? What was said and why?
 - c. If there is action, who performed the action? Why did they perform it?
 - d. How does this passage fit in with the passage that came before it?
 - e. What did this passage of Scripture mean to the people it was originally written to? What was the point?
3. End each session of Bible reading by writing down what this passage means for you:
 - a. What does this passage tell me about God?
 - b. How does this passage fit with the Gospel of Jesus Christ?
 - c. What does this passage tell me about me and/or other people?
4. Spend the last 3-5 minutes of each reading session taking your answers to the previous 3 questions and turning them into prayer.

Week 3

1. Continue to follow the strategies from the previous week.
2. During one of your Bible reading sessions, choose a verse and read it in several different translations. Use the "Tools" tab on BlueLetterBible.org. Did the other translations shed any new light on the meaning of the verse?
3. During one of your Bible reading sessions, choose a verse that contains something you don't understand or has left you with questions you can't answer. Use the BlueLetterBible.org "Tools" tab to read 3 different commentaries about that verse. Did the commentaries shed any new light on the meaning of the verse?

Resources

Books

- [*How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth*](#) - Gordon Fee, Douglas Stuart
- [*ESV Concise Study Bible*](#)
- [*NIV Basic Study Bible*](#)

Articles

- <https://www.logos.com/grow/best-bible-translation/>
- <https://www.logos.com/grow/5-guidelines-for-picking-the-right-bible-translation-for-the-right-situation/>
- <https://www.crossway.org/articles/infographic-you-can-read-more-of-the-bible-than-you-think/>
- <https://www.crossway.org/articles/infographic-how-do-you-read-the-bible/>

Video/Audio

- [How to Read the Bible](#) - Bible Project
- [How to Read Your Bible \(Lectures\)](#) - Dr. George Guthrie for BiblicalTraining.org
- [Look at the Book](#) - John Piper

Additional Bible Study Resources

Some Helpful Definitions:

- *Commentary* - A Bible commentary is a book typically written by a qualified Bible scholar that contains notes explaining the meaning of passages of Scripture. For example, a commentary on the Gospel of Matthew will begin with the text of Matthew 1:1 and make comments on each verse of that Gospel. Those notes often contain insights into the original language and customs of the time period, references to other Biblical texts and even relevant texts outside the Bible, and the meanings of unfamiliar phrases, metaphors, and symbols.
- *Dictionary* - A Bible dictionary or encyclopedia typically contains alphabetically-organized definitions of different Biblical concepts, objects, places, customs, and characters.
- *Lexicon* - A Bible Lexicon contains English definitions of the original Hebrew and Greek words contained in the Bible.
- *Study Bible* - A Study Bible contains the inspired text of Scripture with notes explaining what the text means and references that connect words and ideas from one passage to other passages.
- *Strong's Number System* - This is an index of every Hebrew and Greek word in the Bible. Each word in the original language is given a unique number that allows the person studying to trace all the places where that word appears throughout Scripture as well as other words that are related to it.

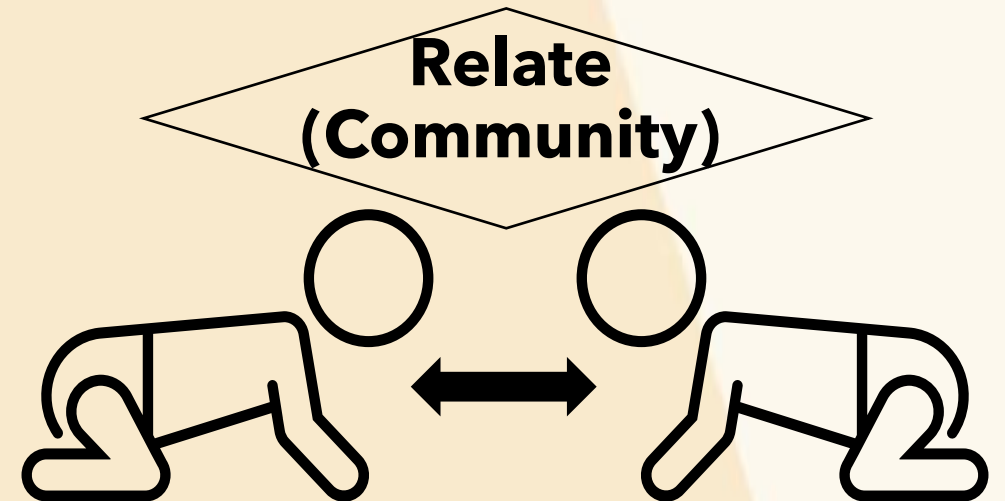
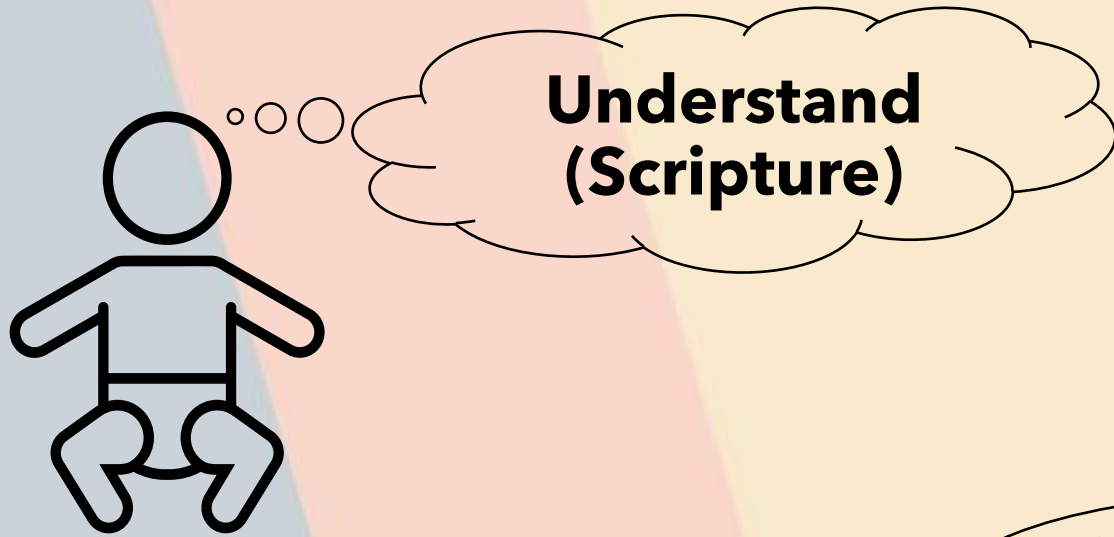
Free Digital Resources:

- [Read Scripture App](#)
 - This mobile app includes the entire text of the Bible broken into an interactive reading plan that includes embedded videos to help you understand what you're reading.
- [E-Sword](#)
 - This is a mostly free program or app that you install on your computer or phone. It functions as a kind of "digital library" for a multitude of different Bible translations, commentaries, dictionaries, etc. - many of which are free to download. Once you download this content, it's available even offline.
- [Blue Letter Bible](#)
 - This is a Web site that also functions like a free "digital library" where you can view virtually every major English translation of the Bible and a multitude of tools that are designed to help you understand the text better.
- [The Gospel Coalition](#)
 - The Gospel Coalition was co-founded by Tim Keller. Their Web site contains articles, book reviews, online classes, videos, podcasts, etc. that are Biblically and doctrinally sound and Gospel and Christ-centered.
- [Desiring God Ministries](#)
 - This Web site ministry was founded by and still centers on the teachings of Pastor John Piper. However, it also offers content from many other reputable, qualified, and gifted teachers. Every book that John Piper has written is also available here as a free PDF download.
- [Enjoying God Ministries](#)
 - This Web site offers content mainly created by Pastor Sam Storms, including detailed commentaries on different books and passages of the Bible.
- [Biblical Training](#)
 - This Web site and app give you free access to seminary-level lectures from qualified and talented scholars and pastors from around the country.
- [The Bible Project](#)
 - This Web site and app contains tons of helpful articles, videos, podcasts, and graphics that range from complete overviews of entire Biblical books to detailed analysis of specific Biblical themes.
- [Ligonier Commentary Recommendations](#)
 - There are so many different commentaries that have been written on each book of the Bible - how can you decide which are the best and most trustworthy? Ligonier Ministries has compiled a master list of their "Top 5 Recommended Commentaries for Each Book of the Bible." Start here!
- [Internet Archive Digital Library](#)
 - Before you spend a lot of money buying a commentary, check this Web site to see if you can borrow it for free!

RE»NEW

WHAT DO CHRISTIANS DO?

Email Q&A Questions to
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1. What is prayer?

christian

Matthew 6:5-15

(5) "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

(6) But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (7) "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the

Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. (8) Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. (9) Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

(10) Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. (11) Give us this day our daily bread, (12) and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. (13) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. (14) For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, (15) but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Definition

Prayer is a conversation between a child and their Father.

Ephesians 2:18

**For through [Jesus] we both
have access in one Spirit to
the Father.**

John 16:23-27

(23) In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.
(24) Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full....(27) for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.

Romans 8:14-16

(14) For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. (15) For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" (16) The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God

2. Why should I pray?

Why should I pray?

**To deepen your relationship of
love with God.**

Matthew 6:5-6

(5) "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. (6) But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

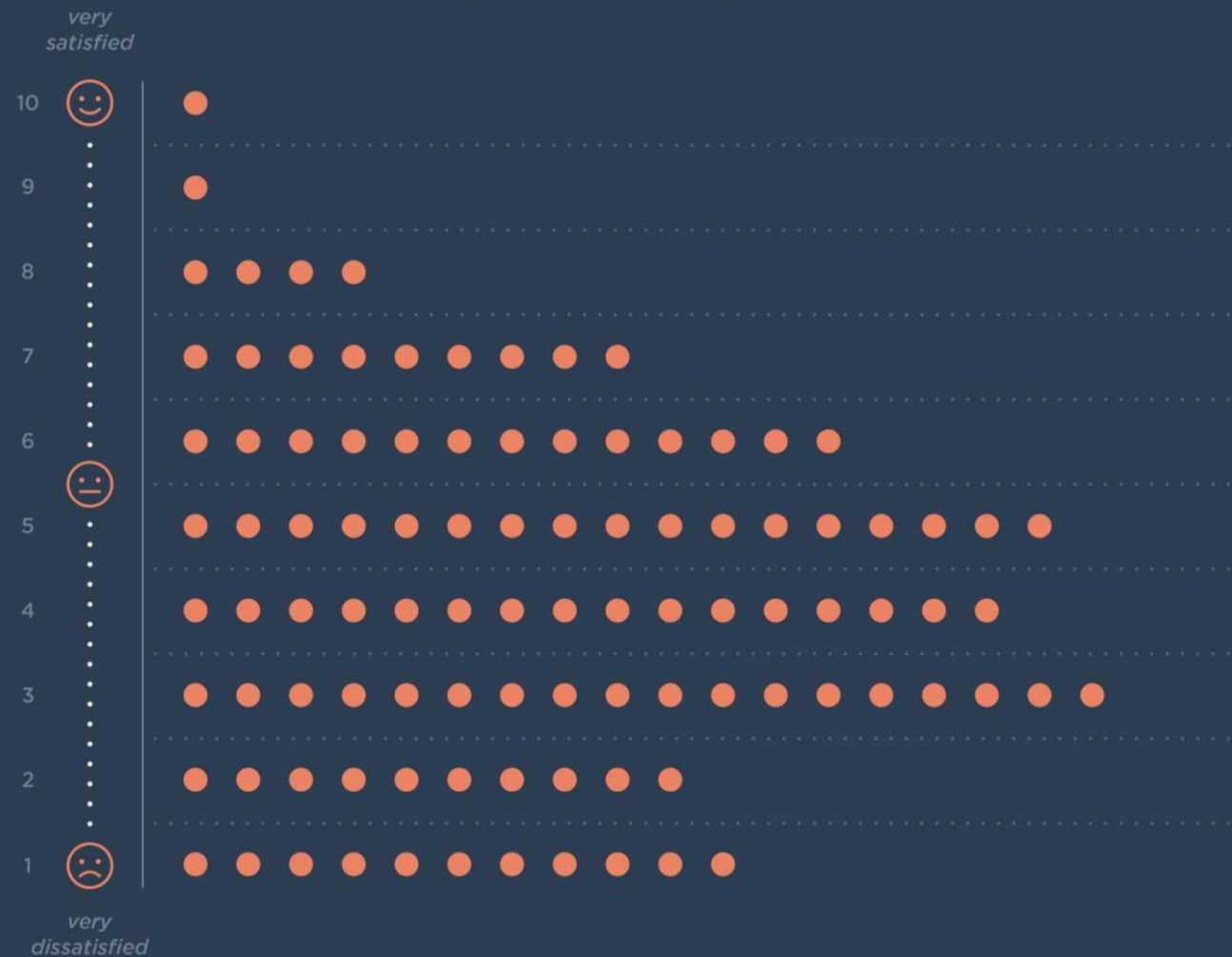
3. How do I pray (well)?

ASSESSING YOUR PRAYER LIFE

...

On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your prayer life?

● = 1% of respondents



BARRIERS TO PRAYER

...

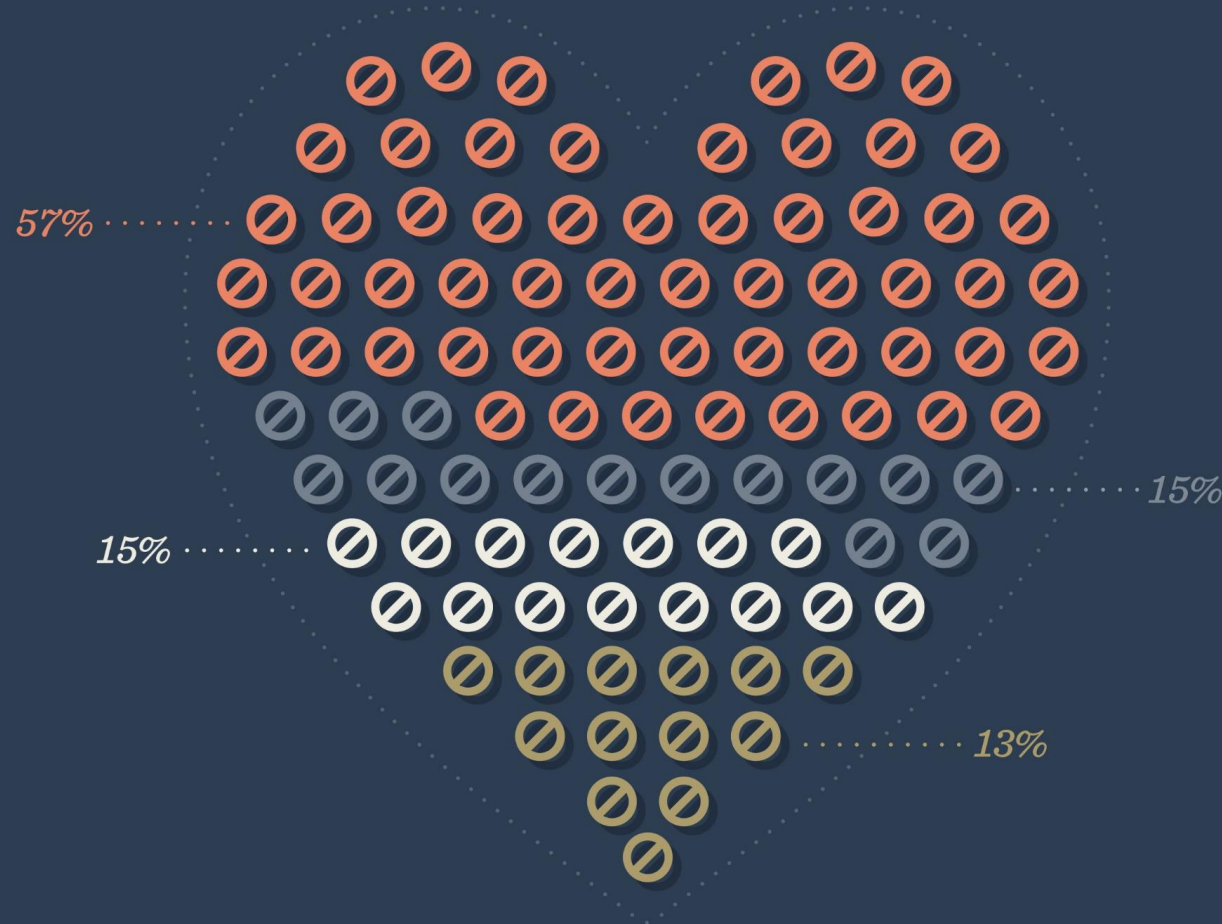
What is the biggest impediment to your prayer life?

Distraction

Indifference

Busyness

Lost for Words



Distraction

Busyness

Indifference

Lost for Words

Preparation

Matthew 6:6

But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret...

Preparation

- ✓ **Distraction free location**
- ✓ **Timing**

Matthew 6:11

Give us this day our daily bread

Preparation

- ✓ **Distraction free location**
- ✓ **Timing:**
 - **Daily**
 - **Start with 20 minutes**
 - **Choose the best time of day for YOU**
- ✓ **Resources:**
 - **Bible!**
 - **Songs of Jesus Devotion Book**

The NEW YORK TIMES Bestselling Author

TIMOTHY KELLER

with KATHY KELLER

A Year of Daily Devotions in the Psalms

The Songs of JESUS

Vocabulary

- **Combine Bible reading with prayer!**
- **Remember how to “Ponder” from our previous class!**
 - **God, Gospel, Me**

Grammar

Upward



Inward



Outward



Upward

Grammar: 1) Upward

Matthew 6:9-10 & 11-13

(9) Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. (10) Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

(11) Give us this day our daily bread, (12) and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. (13) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Grammar: 1) Upward

- **Focus on God:**
 - **Honor him for who he is through praise & gratitude**
 - **Honor his rule and will through seeking & submission**

Grammar: 2) Inward

- **Both physical and spiritual needs**

Matthew 6:11 & 12-13

(11) Give us this day our daily bread

(12) and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

(13) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Grammar: 3) Outward

- **Who?**
 - **People both inside and outside the family of Christ.**
- **How?**
 - **Prayer Focus Schedule**

Monday: Family &
Friends

Tuesday: Church
Leaders

Wednesday: Church
Family

Thursday: Community,
Nation, World

Grammar: 4) Upward

Matthew 6:13

(13) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.]

Grammar: 4) Upward

- **Return to focus on, praise, and submit to God**

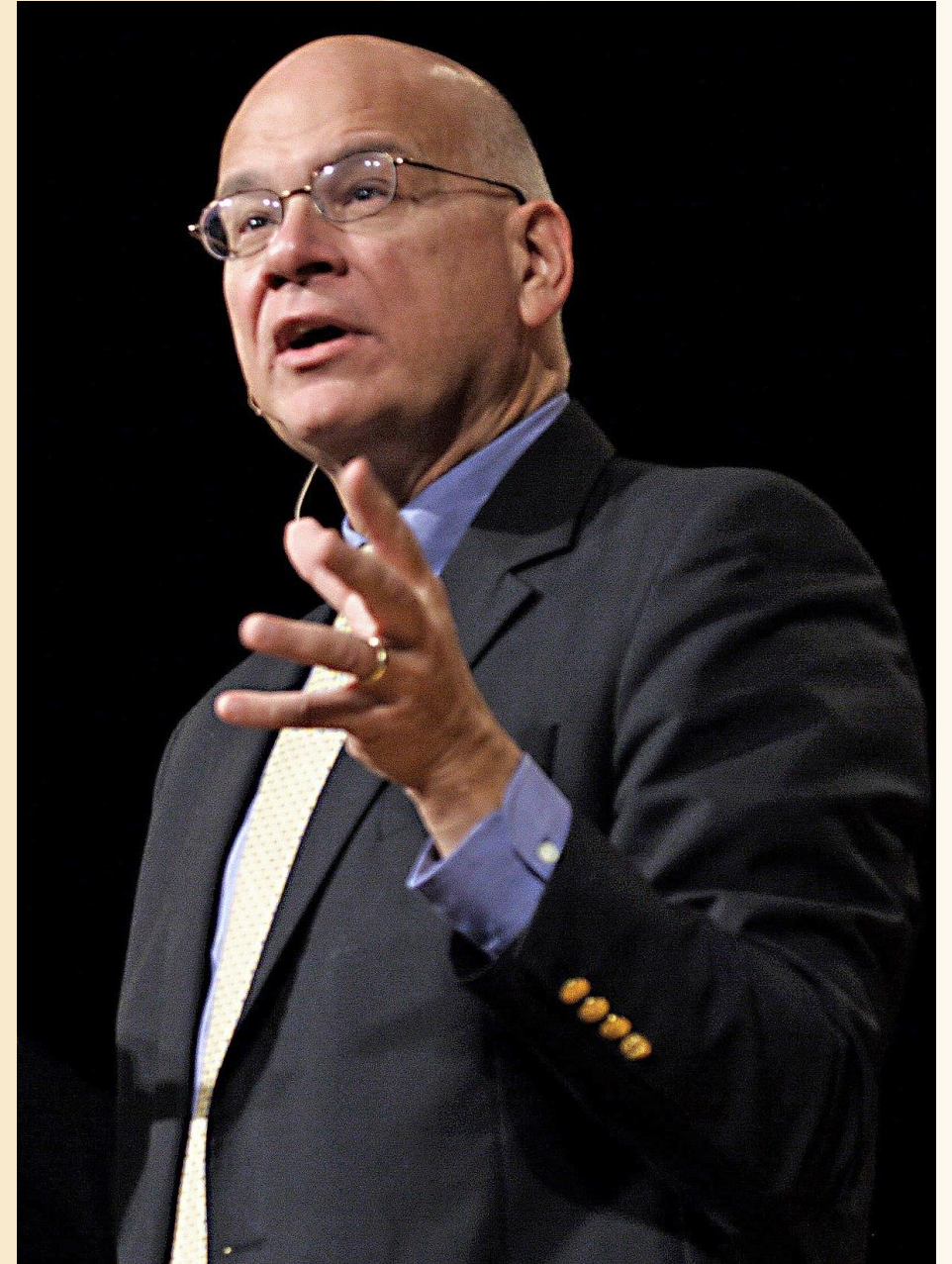
Immersion

1. Do it OFTEN

❖ Constantly & Consistently

“The changes took some time to bear fruit, but after sustaining these practices for about two years, I began to have some breakthroughs...The result was a spiritual liveliness and strength that this Christian minister, for all my preaching, had not had before.”

- Pastor Timothy Keller
in *Prayer*



Immersion

1. Do it OFTEN

❖ **Constantly & Consistently**

2. Do it WITH OTHERS

❖ **Community**

In Jesus' Name...

- **An attitude that recognizes our access and authority and accepts God's will.**



"We must give up any thought that we have any claims upon God...But Jesus Christ has great claims on God, and we should go to God in our prayers not on the ground of any goodness in ourselves, but on the ground of Jesus Christ's claims."

- Pastor R.A. Torrey

Modeling

Matthew 6:9-13

GOD: So far above me. Perfect and holy. But also my Father who loves me.

GOSPEL: The only reason I can approach God in prayer is b/c Jesus died and rose again for my sins.

ME: I don't give prayer the time and effort it deserves b/c I have a low view of it. I need to change that!

Monday: Family &
Friends

Tuesday: Church
Leaders

Wednesday: Church
Family

Thursday: Community,
Nation, World

Prayer

The diagram illustrates three types of communication:

- Intrapersonal Communication:** A person is shown with a thought bubble above their head, representing communication with oneself.
- Interpersonal Communication:** Two people are shown with a speech bubble between them, representing communication between two individuals.
- Mass Communication:** A large diamond shape is shown above two people, representing communication to a large, diverse audience.

Definition:_____

Clarifications:_____

[illegible]

1. _____

2. _____

3._____

4._____

3. How do I pray?

Preparation

☒

☒

☒

Vocabulary

Grammar

Immersion

1.	2.

Discussion & Reflection Questions

Your group leader will choose 2-3 of these questions to discuss in the breakout meeting:

1. What did you find most helpful about this teaching? Why?
 2. How has prayer (or God working through prayer) helped you or someone you know personally?
 3. Out of the 4 “barriers to prayer” mentioned during the class, which one has been the main one keeping you from praying more/better? How do you think you can lower or remove that barrier?
 4. What would an ideal prayer routine look like for you? In other words, what would be your answers to where, when, and how long?
 5. During the class we talked about a helpful, Biblical way to structure our prayers: Upward, Inward, Outward, Upward. Which of those “movements” of prayer do you find the easiest to do? Which do you find the hardest? Why?
-

Weekly Challenges

In order to help you get started and grow in your practice of prayer, consider completing the following challenges over the next 3 weeks.

Week 1

1. Use the following template to make a personalized prayer routine:
 - a. Timing: I will spend at least _____ minutes praying each day.
 - b. Timing: I will set an alarm to remind me to start my prayer time at _____ a.m./p.m.
 - c. Location: The place where I will pray is _____.
2. Consider reading and pondering on one of the following prayers from Scripture before you pray:
 - a. Exodus 15:1-21; 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Psalm 51; Psalm 139; Daniel 9:1-19; John 17; Ephesians 3:14-21
 - b. Jot down a few notes about what these Scriptural prayers teach you about *God, the Gospel, and Yourself*.
3. Pray using the Upward, Inward, and Upward movements. Skip the “Outward” movement this week. Try to incorporate words and ideas that stood out to you from your time pondering Scripture.
4. Consider purchasing [The Songs of Jesus](#) as a Scripture and Prayer aid.

Week 2

1. Look back over your previous week’s prayer routine. Did you practice the plan you created? Do you need to make any adjustments to your plan?
2. This week, create a “Prayer Focus Schedule” like we discussed during the class. You can keep this schedule in a physical notebook, Word document, or a digital note on your phone.
3. Continue the prayer practices from the previous week, but this time add in the “Outward” movement by following the Focus Schedule you created.
 - a. If you read all of the Scriptures listed for the previous week, either follow your own Bible reading plan or consider reading a psalm or portion of a psalm before each session of prayer. [The Songs of Jesus](#) book is very helpful here.

Week 3

1. Continue your prayer routine from the previous week, making any necessary adjustments.
 2. Look for an additional moment during your day where you can spend a quick moment or two in prayer. Some ideas include:
 - a. On your drive to work, while doing laundry/dishes, in the shower, while taking a walk, etc.
 - b. Don't feel pressured to move through all 4 movements during these quicker, more spontaneous moments of prayer. If you're having trouble coming up with words, think back over what you most recently read in Scripture.
 3. Watch this [video](#) on praying the Prayer of Examen and then try doing it every night this week.
 4. Look for at least one opportunity to pray together with others. Some ideas include:
 - a. During Sunday morning worship, at a small group meeting, at the dinner table, before putting your children to bed, in the morning with your spouse, etc.
-

Resources

Books

- [*Prayer: Experiencing Awe & Intimacy with God*](#) - Timothy Keller
- [*The Songs of Jesus: A Year of Daily Devotions in the Psalms*](#) - Timothy Keller
- [*The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers & Devotions*](#) - Edited by Arthur Bennett

Articles

- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/tim-keller-on-prayer/>
- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/you-asked-can-i-pray-to-jesus/>
- <https://www.practicingtheway.org/prayer>
- [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/62ffd889db541509cc42d76e/t/63e5c2ffe785253f65dafcb5/1676002047728/PTW Prayer Rolheiser PrayerTips.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/62ffd889db541509cc42d76e/t/63e5c2ffe785253f65dafcb5/1676002047728/PTW+Prayer+Rolheiser+PrayerTips.pdf)
- <https://www.logos.com/grow/nook-morning-prayers/>
- <https://www.logos.com/grow/nook-night-prayers/>
- <https://www.crossway.org/articles/infographic-how-is-your-prayer-life/>

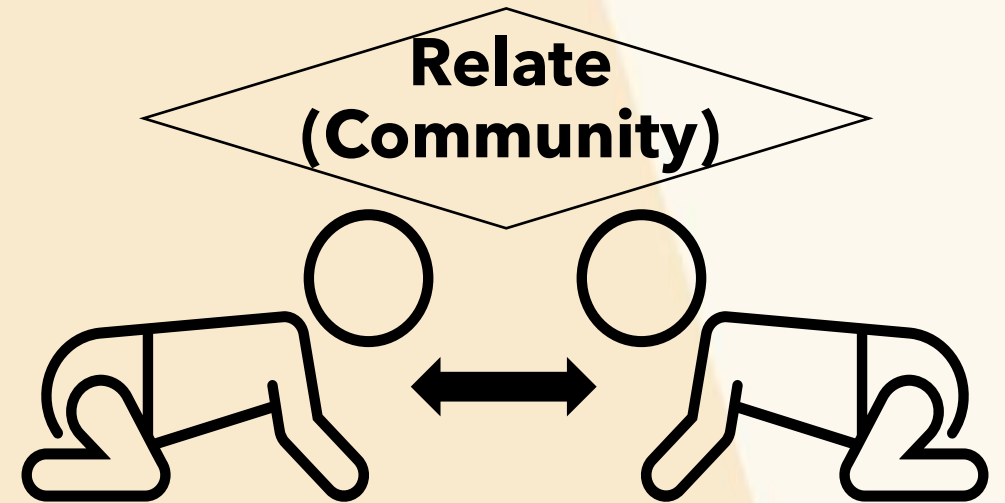
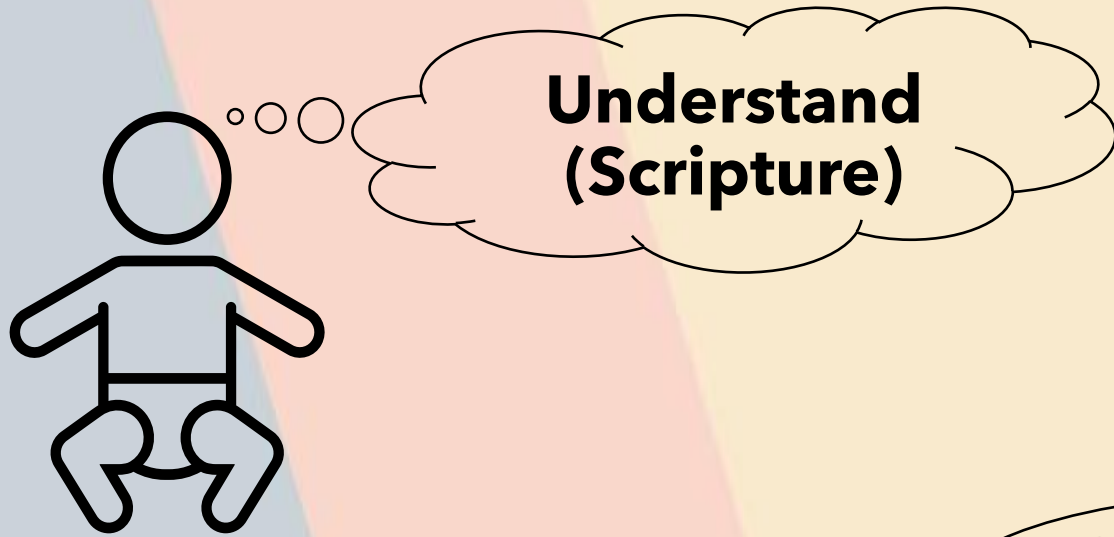
Video/Audio

- [Praying the Lord's Prayer](#) - Practicing the Way
- [Praying the Prayer of Examen](#) - Practicing the Way

RE»NEW

WHAT DO CHRISTIANS DO?

Email Q&A Questions to
anthony@severn.cc



1 Corinthians 12:12-13

(12) For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. (13) For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

Guiding Statement

**If we are to live in community well
and grow together as one body,
we must...**

**Discover and use the spiritual gifts
God has given us.**

1. What are spiritual gifts?

Key Spiritual Gifts Passages

Romans 12:6-8

1 Corinthians 12-14

Ephesians 4:7-16

1 Peter 4:10-11

1 Corinthians 12:1-6

(1) Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed...(4) Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; (5) and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; (6) and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.



Pneumatikos

Charisma



1 Corinthians 12:7-11

(7) To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (8) For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit...(11) All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

1 Corinthians 12:7-11

(7) To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (8) For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit...(11) All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

Definition

Abilities given to each member of Jesus' body by God's grace and empowered by his Holy Spirit...

Spiritual Gifts ≠ Spiritual Fruit

1 Corinthians 1:7

**...you are not lacking in any gift,
as you wait for the revealing of
our Lord Jesus Christ,**

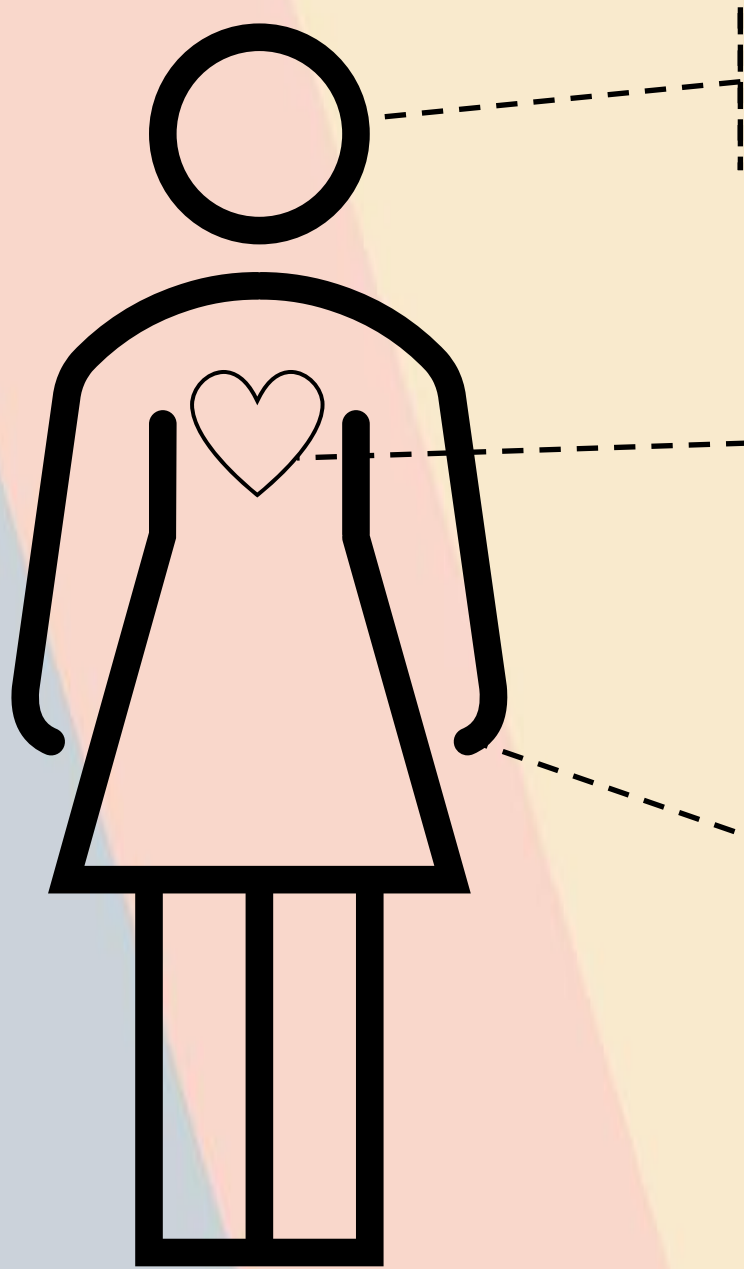
1 Corinthians 3:1-3

(1) But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. (2) I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, (3) for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?

<u>Rom. 12</u>	<u>1 Cor. 12</u>	<u>Eph. 4</u>	<u>1 Pe. 4</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prophecy • Serving • Teaching • Encouraging • Contributing • Leadership • Mercy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prophecy • Teaching • Miracles • Healings • Helps • Administration • Word of Wisdom • Word of Knowledge • Faith • Discernment of Spirits • Tongues • Interpretation of Tongues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prophecy • Evangelism • Teaching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality? • Gifts of Speaking • Gifts of Serving

1 Peter 4:10

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:



**Prophecy, teaching, discernment,
admin., leadership, etc.**

**Healings, mercy, encouraging,
faith, etc.**

Helps, serving, contributing, etc.

2. Why should we discover and use our spiritual gifts?

1 Corinthians 12:7

**To each is given the manifestation
of the Spirit for the common good.**

Ephesians 4:15-16

(15) Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, (16) from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Definition

Abilities given to each member of Jesus' body by God's grace and empowered by his Holy Spirit...*for the health and growth of the entire body.*

1 Corinthians 14:4-5

(4) The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but the one who prophesies builds up the church.

(5) Now I want you all to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy...so that the church may be built up.

3. How do we discover and use our spiritual gifts?



Head Steps

1. Pray

1 Corinthians 12:11

All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.



Head Steps (Look Up)

1. Pray

2. Read

Heart Steps (Look In)

3. Self-Examine

- ❖ **Look inside yourself & ask:**
 - **What are my abilities and skills?**
 - **What are my desires?**

1 Corinthians 14:1

**Pursue love, and earnestly desire
the spiritual gifts...**

Heart Steps (Look In)

3. Self-Examine

- ❖ **Look inside yourself & ask:**
 - **What are my abilities and skills?**
 - **What are my desires?**
 - **What are my motives?**

James 4:3

**You ask and do not receive,
because you ask wrongly, to
spend it on your passions.**

1 Corinthians 14:1

**Pursue love, and earnestly desire
the spiritual gifts...**



Hand Steps (Look Out)

4. Look outward to...

- ❖ Others, for counsel & prayer**
- ❖ The needs & opportunities around you**



"Some might say they still don't know their gift. But knowing your spiritual gift isn't as important as exercising your spiritual gift. Surely many believers in history didn't know their spiritual gifts or think much about them, and yet they exercised those gifts in powerful ways. If you aren't sure what your spiritual gifts are, I wouldn't worry about it. If you give yourself to other believers in the church, you will inevitably be using your gifts."

- Thomas Schreiner



Hand Steps (Look Out)

5. Start doing it!

- ❖ Cycle through previous steps**
- ❖ Evaluate: Is it benefitting & building up your local body?**
- ❖ Serve Teams & Small Groups!**



Hand Steps (Look Out)

6. Get better at it!

1 Timothy 4:13-15

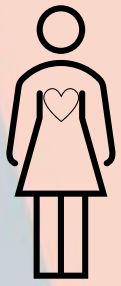
(13) Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. (14) Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. (15) Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress.



Hand Steps (Look Out)

6. Get better at it!

- ❖ Devote Yourself**
- ❖ Practice**



Head, Heart & Hand Steps

- 1. Pray**
- 2. Read**
- 3. Self-Examine**
- 4. Look Outward**
- 5. Start Doing It**
- 6. Get Better at It**

Modeling



Ephesians 4:7-8

(7) But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. (8) Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men."

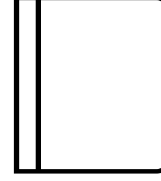
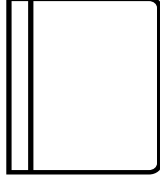
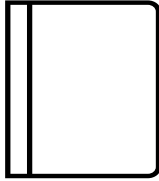
**Next Renew class is
Wednesday,
May 15th**

Renew: What Do Christians Do?

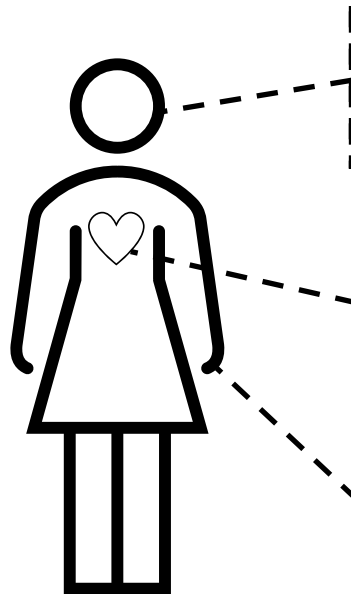
Community: Spiritual Gifts

1. What are spiritual gifts?

4 Major Passages:



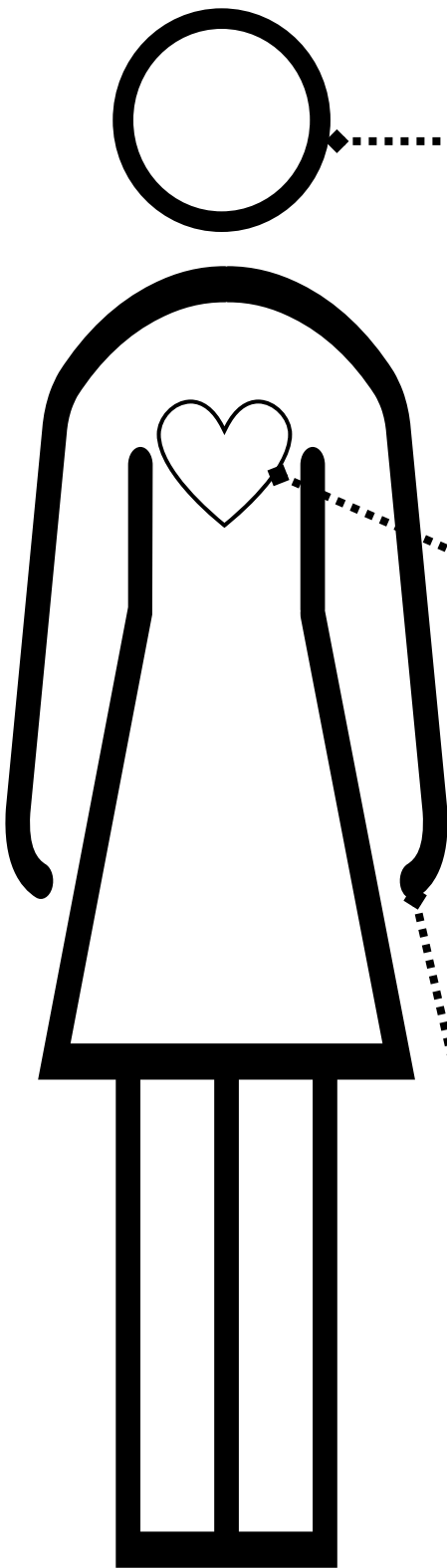
Definition: _____

[illegible]

2. Why should we discover & use our spiritual gifts?

[illegible]

3. How do we discover & use our spiritual gifts?



1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Discussion & Reflection Questions

Your group leader will choose 2-3 of these questions to discuss in the breakout meeting:

1. What did you find most helpful about this teaching?
 2. How have you been helped by someone else's spiritual gift?
 3. After hearing tonight's teaching, can you think of any other abilities that aren't necessarily listed in Scripture but could still function as spiritual gifts?
 4. Have you discovered your spiritual gift(s)?
 - a. If so, what are they, how did you discover them, and how have you been using them?
 - b. If not, what desires and abilities do you already have that may help you determine them?
What opportunities are available right now for you to serve the body of Christ?
 5. In your use of your spiritual gift(s), what can you do to fight against pride and pursue love as your chief goal?
 6. Out of all the "steps" for discovering our spiritual gift(s), which one do you think is the most difficult? Why?
-

Weekly Challenges

In order to help you discover, use, and grow in your spiritual gift(s), consider completing the following challenges over the next 3 weeks.

Week 1: Focus on the "Head" Steps

1. Spend time each day this week reading and praying about your spiritual gifts.
 - a. Each day read one of the following spiritual gifts passages: 1 Cor. 12; 1 Cor. 13; 1 Cor. 14; Romans 12:6-8; Ephesians 4:7-11; 1 Peter 4:9-11
 - i. If you don't know what some of the gifts mean, use the resources at BlueLetterBible.org to look them up.
 - ii. Jot down anything that stands out to or resonates with you.
 - b. Turn the thoughts and meditations gleaned from your reading into prayer:
 - i. Thank God for His grace in giving us gifts.
 - ii. Submit to his will as the Giver of all gifts.
 - iii. Ask him to help you discover your gift(s).
2. After you pray, write down any new clarities or questions that arose during your time of prayer.

Week 2: Focus on the "Heart" Steps

1. Before each time of prayer, spend a few minutes thinking about and jotting down answers to one of the following questions. Focus on just one question per day.
 - a. What skills or abilities do I already have that I could use to build up the body of Christ?
 - b. What specific desires do I have to build up the body of Christ?
 - c. What are my motives for desiring (or not desiring) a specific gift? Be honest here about any pride, selfishness, fear, lack of faith, etc.
2. After jotting down your notes, turn these thoughts and meditations into prayer.
3. After you pray, write down any new clarities or questions that arose during your time of prayer.

Week 3: Focus on the "Hands" Steps

1. Continue praying about your spiritual gifts.
 2. In your prayer/reading notebook, make a list titled, "I think one of my spiritual gifts might be..."
 - a. Use what you've learned in the past two weeks from prayer, reading God's Word, and searching your own heart to write down at least 1 (and no more than 3) spiritual gifts that you believe God may have given you.
 - b. Circle the one gift that you'd like to focus on immediately.
 3. Seek out a trusted and mature brother/sister in Christ (your small group leader would be a good candidate) and share with them what you believe might be your gift and ask them for counsel/feedback.
 4. If this brother/sister sees the same potential gifting as you, now begin to look for opportunities to use your gift or needs in the church body that you might be able to meet with your gift. Your small group community is a great place to start. You can also look for serve team opportunities at severn.cc/serve.
 5. After your first opportunity to use this potential gift is complete, return to the same brother/sister and ask them for honest feedback (what you did well and what you could do better). Receive their feedback with gratitude, continue to pray that God would help you to grow, and look for more opportunities to practice this gift.
 6. After several months of practicing your potential gift and receiving feedback, answer the following questions:
 - a. Is there evidence that this gift is benefiting the body of Christ?
 - b. Have I enjoyed using this gift?
 - c. Is there evidence that I have grown in my love for the people I've been serving?
 - d. If you answer yes to all of these, it's probably wise to continue practicing this gift. If you answer no, it's probably time to re-evaluate whether this is truly your gift or whether you're using it with the right motive.
-

Resources

Books

- [*Systematic Theology*](#) - Wayne Gruden
- [*Understanding Spiritual Gifts*](#) - Sam Storms

Articles

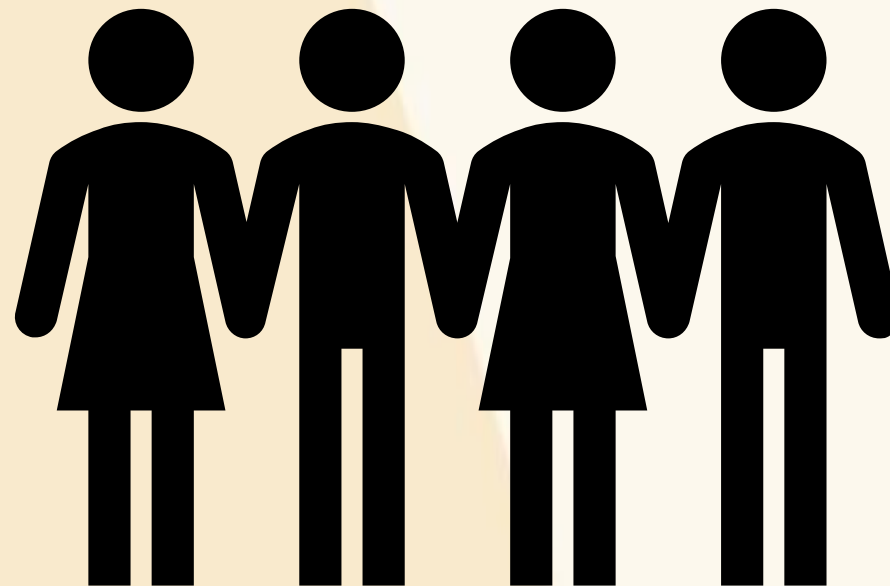
- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/the-gifts-of-the-spirit/>
- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/how-not-discover-spiritual-gifts/>
- <https://www.samstorms.org/all-articles/post/life-in-the-spirit-experiencing-the-grace-and-gifts-of-the-holy-spirit--1-corinthians-12:4-7->
- <https://www.samstorms.org/all-articles/post/revelatory-gifts-all-for-the-common-good--1-corinthians-12:8-10->
- <https://www.samstorms.org/all-articles/post/are-miraculous-gifts-for-today---part-i>
- <https://www.samstorms.org/all-articles/post/are-miraculous-gifts-for-today---part-ii>

Video/Audio

- [Spiritual Gifts Interview w/Gavin Ortlund & Sam Storms](#) - Truth Unites
- [Spiritual Gifts Lecture](#) - Dr. Gerry Breshears for BiblicalTraining.org

RE»NEW

WHAT DO CHRISTIANS DO?

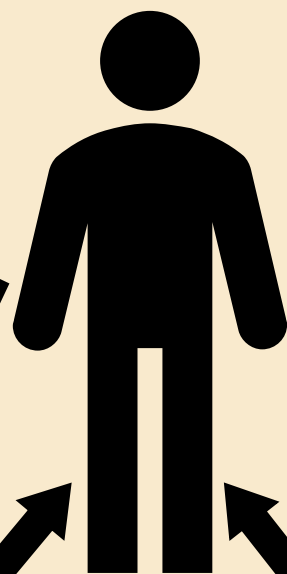


Spiritual Gifts

Evangelism

Scripture

Prayer



1. What is evangelism?

Euangelion

Euangelizo



"When Caesar's herald comes into town and declares 'We have a new emperor,' it isn't an invitation to debate the principle of imperial rule. It isn't the offer of a new feeling inside. It's a new fact, and you'd better readjust your life around it."

- N.T. Wright in *Simply Jesus*



Definition

**The proclamation of life-
changing good news
about King Jesus and what he
has done
to people whose lives have
not yet been changed by it.**



**Christmas
Angel
(Luke 2:10)**



**John the
Baptist
(Luke 3:18) (Luke 4:18)**



**Jesus
Christ
(Luke 4:18)**



**Twelve
Apostles
(Acts 5:42)**



**Ordinary
Followers
(Acts 8:4)**

Acts 8:1-4

(1)...And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles...(4) Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word.



"People converted because they knew other people who were Christian - people connected to them in their daily lives, members of their families, friends, neighbors, coworkers. Many Christians were quite happy to talk about their new faith, about the great miracles that had been worked by and for those who believed, the divine power that was more readily available to those who worshiped the Christian god than to anyone who worshiped any other divine being. These Christians proved convincing. Not massively, just occasionally. That is all it took."

- Bart Ehrman in *The Triumph of Christianity*

2. Why should we evangelize?



MOTIVE	GOAL

MOTIVE

GOAL

2 Corinthians 5:14

**For the love of Christ controls us,
because we have concluded this: that
one has died for all, therefore all
have died.**

MOTIVE

- **The love of Christ!**
 - *His love for us*
 - *Our love for him*
 - *His love in us for others*

GOAL

Matthew 28:18-20

(18) And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. (19) Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...

MOTIVE

- **The love of Christ!**
 - *His love for us*
 - *Our love for him*
 - *His love in us for others*

GOAL

- **Make disciples!**

Matthew 28:18-20

(18) And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. (19) Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

MOTIVE

- **The love of Christ!**
 - *His love for us*
 - *Our love for him*
 - *His love in us for others*

GOAL

- **Make disciples!**
 - *Who love Jesus and live like him*

3. How can we evangelize well?

Public preaching to large crowds	Mark 4:1-9; Acts 2
One-on-one conversation w/stranger at a well	John 4:1-45
Discussion over dinner	Matt. 9:10-13; Luke 7:36-50
Teaching in a religious building	Luke 4:16-30; Acts 13:13-44
Talking to a group worshipping near a river	Acts 16:13-15
Explaining a Bible passage to a leader parked in his chariot	Acts 8:26-40
Talking about the gospel in a philosophical setting alongside other beliefs	Acts 17:16-34
Inviting non-believers to a worship gathering	1 Cor. 14:23-25
Telling your personal conversion story while defending yourself on trial	Acts 26
Meeting someone's physical need and using that opportunity to point to Jesus	Acts 3
Answering people's questions about why you have so much hope	1 Peter 3:15

1 Corinthians 9:19-23

(19) For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. (20) To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. (21) To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. (22) To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. **I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. (23) I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.**

Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13; Mark 4; Luke 8)





#1: Make Sure You Have the Seed

1 Corinthians 15:1-8

(1) Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, (2) and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. (3) For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, (4) that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, (5) and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. (6) Then he appeared to...



#1: Make Sure You Have the Seed

- **Gospel Summary:**
 - **Jesus is the Promised King who died and rose again to save us from our sins.**



#2: *Know the Soil*

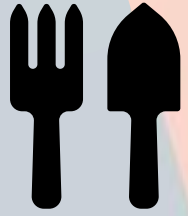
- **Post-Christian Culture**





#2: *Know the Soil*

- **Post-Christian Culture**
 - **Decrease in knowledge**
 - **Increase in negativity**
 - **Unbelief in beliefs**



#3: Prepare the Soil

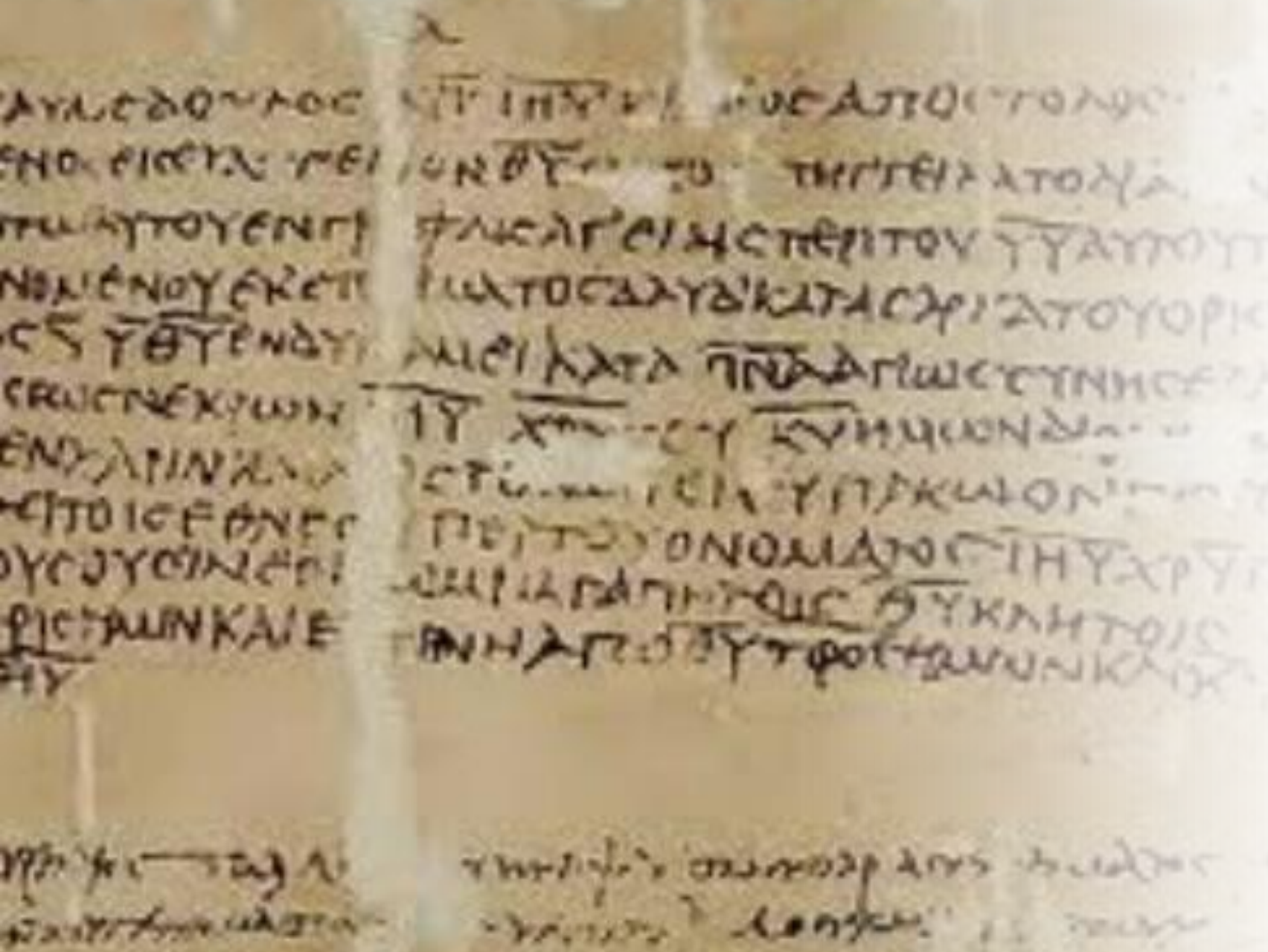
A. Be different without being a jerk.

1 Peter 2:11-12

(11) Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. (12) Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

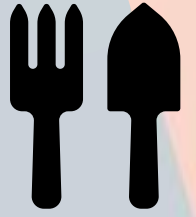
1 Peter 3:15

But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect...



"Christians are indistinguishable from other men either by nationality, language or customs...With regard to dress, food and manner of life in general, they follow the customs of whatever city they happen to be living in, whether it is Greek or foreign. And yet there is something extraordinary about their lives..."

- Letter to Diognetus



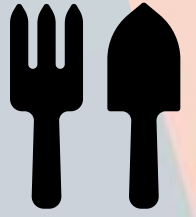
#3: Prepare the Soil

A. Be different without being a jerk.

B. Show hospitality.

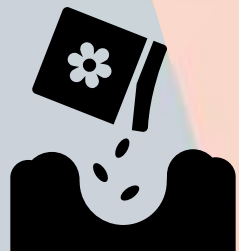
Hebrews 13:2

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.



#3: Prepare the Soil

- A. Be different without being a jerk.**
- B. Show hospitality.**
- C. Go to their things.**
- D. Ask good questions & listen.**



#4: Plant the Seed

- A. Tell your story.**
- B. Tell “micro-redemption” stories.**
- C. Emphasize relevant parts of the gospel.**
- D. Put the ball in their court.**
- E. Offer to pray.**



#5: Tend the Seed

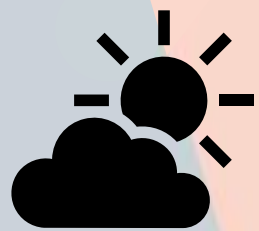
1 Corinthians 3:5-6

(5) What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. (6) I planted, Apollos watered...



#5: *Tend the Seed*

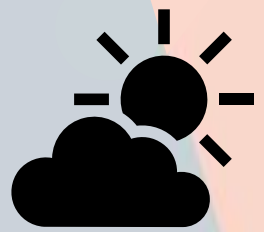
- **Evangelism is a process**
- **Remember the goal: make disciples!**



#6: Trust God

1 Corinthians 3:5-6

(5) What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. (6) I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.



#6: *Trust God*

- **Pray!**

John 4:39

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did."

Renew: What Do Christians Do?

Evangelism

1. What is evangelism?

Ancient Context: _____

Definition: _____

Who Evangelized?

_____	-- Luke 2:10	_____
_____		_____
_____	-- Luke 3:18	_____
_____		_____
_____	-- Luke 4:18	_____
_____		_____
_____	-- Acts 5:42	_____
_____		_____
_____	-- Acts 8:4	_____
_____		_____

2. Why should we evangelize?

[illegible]

3. How can we evangelize well?



#1: _____



#2: _____



#3: _____

A) _____

B) _____

C) _____

D) _____



#4: _____

A) _____

B) _____

C) _____

D) _____

E) _____



#5: _____



#6: _____

Q&A Session

Use the space provided below to take notes during the Question & Answer Session.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

Weekly Challenges

In order to help you begin evangelizing more effectively, consider completing the following challenges over the next 3 weeks.

Week 1:

1. Think of 1 person that you encounter in the regular rhythm of your life that doesn't share your faith in Christ. In your Scripture/Prayer journal, write down their name along with the following:
 - a. What do you know about this person that may make them less receptive to the gospel?
 - b. What do you know about this person that may make them more open to the gospel?
 - c. List 3 questions you can ask to start a conversation and get to know this person better.
2. During your regular times of prayer this week, ask God for the following:
 - a. To experience the love of Christ in a deeper way so that you are more motivated to share the gospel.
 - b. For God's Spirit to make this specific person open to hearing and responding to the gospel.
 - c. For wisdom about how to best share the gospel with this person.

Week 2:

1. Continue the specific prayer requests from the previous week.
2. Use the template at the end of this handout to think through and write out your personal story about how Jesus transformed your life. Make sure the message of the gospel is clear.
3. If you haven't done so already, use the questions that you wrote down last week to begin a deeper conversation with the person you've been praying for.

Week 3:

1. Continue the specific prayer requests from the previous week.
 2. Choose an upcoming Sunday afternoon to plan a meal after church. This could be at your home, at a restaurant, at a park, etc.
 3. Invite one or two of your Christian friends to this meal.
 4. Invite the person you've been praying for to this meal. Here's an example of how you might word the invitation, "Me and a couple friends are having lunch this Sunday after church. If you're free, I'd love to have you join us. My treat!"
 5. If they accept your invitation, spend the time during that meal getting to know the person better by asking them questions. If you're struggling to figure out how to share the gospel, consider asking them a question like this: "We just came from church. Do you practice any kind of faith or have a religious background?" Listen respectfully and be prepared to ask follow-up questions. Look for areas of common ground where you can sympathize and share your story of how you became a follower of Christ. Emphasize points of your story that seem to be relevant and meaningful to them.
 6. If they do not accept your invitation, continue building the relationship! Look for different ways to show them hospitality, meet their needs, pray with them, or just be kind. Let them know that your Christian faith is an essential part of your life by sharing "micro-redemption stories" that are relevant to their lives.
-

Resources

Books

- [*How to Talk About Jesus \(Without Being That Guy\)*](#) - Sam Chan
- [*Evangelism as Exiles*](#) - Elliot Clark

Articles

- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/evangelism-wrong-world/>
- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/cracks-secular-worldview/>
- <https://www.9marks.org/article/journalmust-every-christian-evangelize/>
- <https://au.thegospelcoalition.org/article/the-momentous-news-of-the-gospel/>
- <https://www.crossway.org/articles/5-myths-about-hospitality/#:~:text=The%20command%20to%20withhold%20hospitality,against%20extending%20hospitality%20to%20unbelievers>
- <https://ca.thegospelcoalition.org/article/what-is-christian-hospitality/>

Video/Audio

- [Digital Evangelism Course](#) -Sam Chan
- [What Does "Gospel" Mean?](#) - The Bible Project w/N.T. Wright
- [Evangelism in the 21st Century](#) - Timothy Keller
- [Effective Methods of Evangelism](#) - Thomas Terry & Joshua Ryan Butler
- [Sharing the Gospel in Our Secular Age](#) - Timothy Keller & Russell Moore
- [The Best Way to Share the Gospel with a Stranger](#) - Dr. Timothy Beougher
- [Questioning Evangelism](#) - Randy Newman
- [Help! I'm Not Ready to Share My Faith](#) - Don Carson, Rebecca McLaughlin, & Matt Smethurst
- [Rosaria Butterfield's Story](#)

"Nudge" Questions¹

The questions below are helpful in moving a conversation from chatting about surface-level interests to a deeper sharing of values and worldviews. They can "nudge" the conversation toward the gospel.

- What are you looking for in life?
- Why is this important to you?
- What is the one thing you absolutely must have in this life?
- What happens if you don't find what you're looking for?
- What do you think it all means?
- What do you believe about God?
- What do you think God wants from you?
- Do you have a faith?
- What religion did your parents raise you with?
- Do you pray?
- What's the best thing about being a _____ [whatever religion or philosophy of life the person identifies with]?
- Tell me about some traditions, festivals, or celebrations that are important to you?
- What do people get wrong about your religion/philosophy of life?

¹ These questions are taken from Chan, Sam. *How to Talk about Jesus (without Being That Guy): Personal Evangelism in a Skeptical World*. Zondervan Reflective, 2020. 42-43.

Template: Tell Your Story²

Use the template below to write out the story of how Jesus transformed your life. The goal is to help you communicate your story in a way that flows clearly and communicates the beauty of the gospel. So, adapt and expand this template as needed. Be yourself and be all things to all people!

Introduction: Describe yourself.

- I am ...

Mission: State your mission.

- My mission in life was ...

Goal: What goal were you trying to achieve?

- Because I wanted to achieve...

Means: Describe how you tried to achieve this mission.

- So I ...

Obstacle: Explain the problem of trying to fulfill this mission without God.

- But ...

Bridge: Explain how Jesus achieves your mission for you.

- But Jesus ...

Climax: Explain how you decided to follow Jesus.

- That's when I decided ...

Conclusion: Explain what living with Jesus looks like in your life now.

- So now I ...

Example from Sam Chan:

"I am a firstborn Asian son who is a high achiever. My mission in life was to study hard and become a doctor. If I became a doctor, it would give me status, self-worth, and security. For example, in elementary school, I always asked my teacher for more work – yes, I was *that* annoying kid in your class.

So, I tried to achieve my mission by getting good grades...But the problem with being a high achiever is that it makes you proud and insecure at the same time. You need more and more achievements to be somebody in your own eyes. For example, once I was a doctor, it wasn't enough for my self-worth. I also had to become a surgeon to be somebody in the medical community and in my own eyes.

But Jesus came to give me all the status, self-worth, and security I needed. I had grown up in a Christian family and had known Jesus all my life. But I don't think I fully understood this until someone helped me read the Bible and showed me the bit where Jesus is perfect so I don't have to be perfect. God loves me just the way I am because of what Jesus has done. I didn't need to be a doctor with qualifications to earn God's love.

That's when I decided I didn't need to chase achievements to be secure. I didn't have to be proud of what I had done and yet insecure that I hadn't done enough. Instead, if I had Jesus, I could be humble and secure. Humble because it's Jesus who is perfect, not me. Secure, because my status was found in Jesus, not me.

So now I no longer chase achievements to be somebody. For example, a few years ago, I had to decide if I wanted to remain in full-time medicine. In the past, I needed to be a doctor to feel important...But I was able to leave full-time medicine because it no longer mattered what others thought of me. I was important in God's eyes. Jesus is perfect so I don't have to be perfect to be somebody in God's eyes."

² This template and example story was adapted from Chan, Sam. *How to Talk about Jesus (without Being That Guy): Personal Evangelism in a Skeptical World*. Zondervan Reflective, 2020. 84-86.