

BELIEVER BASICS 101

Session 2

A Christian and Their Bible (Leader's Version)

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Session Plan

- Opening Prayer and Review Memory Verse (5 min)
 - Principles of the Lesson (30 min)
 - Putting it Together (20 min)
 - Practice Assignments and Closing Prayer (5 min)
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Opening Prayer

Memory Verse

“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.” 2 Tim 3:16-17 (NASB)

Principles: 2 Tim 3:10-17

1) **Believe ALL the Bible is God's Word (2 Tim 3:16-17)**

- a) **The Bible has God for its author.** The Bible was written by men inspired by God, and therefore, the Bible is the word that God is speaking to man and carries with it the full authority of God as if you heard it with your own ears. **V.16**
 - i) *All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16*
 - ii) The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired
 - (1) *But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, 21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. 2 Peter 1:20-21*
 - iii) The Bible is a compilation of 66 books, in three languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek) written over 1,600 years, written by over 40 men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit.
 - (1) Two sections: the Old Testament, 39 Books written in Hebrew and Aramaic during 1500-400 BC; and the New Testament, 27 Books written in Greek during 45-100 AD
 - (2) There are more manuscripts in the original languages than any other book in history for that period, over 1,000 Hebrew manuscripts and over 5,300 Greek manuscripts, far more than any other book of its time, giving us overwhelming certainty that what we have as the “Bible” was what the original authors’ actually wrote, and has not been changed. *No other book in history has this attribute.*

- (3) More evidence for its historical truthfulness and accuracy than any other book in history, and the more archeological and scientific evidence uncovered each year only provides more evidence to support the Bible's claims, and never contradicts them. *No other book in history has this attribute.*
- (4) Every prophecy that has been made in the Bible that is to already have been completed has been completed, giving the Bible 100% accuracy with regards to prophecy. *No other book in history has this attribute.*
- (5) With 66 books in three languages by 40+ authors over 1,600 years, there is not one contradiction. No other book in history has this attribute.
- (6) #1 all time best seller, #1 most read book, #1 in popularity and have been translated into more languages than any other book in history. *No other book in history has this attribute.*

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- b) The Bible has... salvation for its end.** God had men write for a purpose, and that chief purpose is to communicate the message of His Gospel of Salvation to men. **V.15**
- i) *and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 2 Timothy 3:15*
 - ii) ...and is God's revelation of Himself to man.
 - (1) *God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, 2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. Hebrews 1:1-2*
 - (2) *Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. Gal 3:24*
 - (3) *Jesus said, "You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me;" John 5:39*
 - (4) *And Jesus said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 "Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?" 27 Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures." Luke 24:25-27*
 - (5) *Then Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, 46 and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem." Luke 24:45-47*

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- c) **The Bible has... truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter.** The Bible, while is both complex and at times hard to understand, it does not contain contradictions or errors. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. **V.15** and John 17:17
- i) *“and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”* 2 Timothy 3:15 and *“Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.”* John 17:17
- ii) It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction.
- (1) *For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.* Romans 15:4

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2) Read ALL the Bible as God’s Word (2 Tim 3:16-17)

- a) **Read for a purpose,** The Bible is “profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness” 2 Tim 3:16
- i) 1 Tim 3:14-17 *You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, 15 and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.*
- ii) *for teaching,* (guide the studies of, to impart the knowledge of , to instruct by precept, example, or experience)
- iii) *for reproof,* (criticism for a fault, reprimand, rebuke, expression of strong disapproval)
- iv) *for correction,*(to make or set right, change into conformity with a standard,
- v) *for training in righteousness;* (to direct growth, instruction, discipline for acting in accord with divine law)
- b) **Read for personal growth,** “so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.” 2 Tim 3:16-17
- i) It is God’s way of communication with us
- ii) 2 Peter 1:19-21 *So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. 20 But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, 21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.*
- c) **Read to know what to do**
- i) Ps 119:105 - *Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.*
- d) **Read so you can recognize and prevent sin**

- i) Ps 119:11 - *Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You.*
- e) **Read to understand about salvation**
 - i) Ps 119:41 - *May Your lovingkindnesses also come to me, O LORD, Your salvation according to Your word;*
- f) **Read ALL of the Bible**, both the Old Testament and the New Testament (All Scripture)
 - i) *6 And he said to me, "These words are faithful and true"; and the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His bond-servants the things which must soon take place. 7 "And behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book."... 10 And he said* to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. 11 "Let the one who does wrong, still do wrong; and the one who is filthy, still be filthy; and let the one who is righteous, still practice righteousness; and the one who is holy, still keep himself holy." 12 "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. 13 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."... 18 I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book. Rev 22:6-7, 10-13, 18-19*

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- 3) **Study ALL the Bible as God's Perfect Word the right way.** It is important to not only read, but to study the Bible to discover exactly what God is saying, not what men think He is saying.
 - a) 2Ti 2:15 - *Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.*
 - i) Ask, Question 1) Who is speaking?
 - (1) It is important to know who is speaking in the context (i.e. in Ex 20, God is speaking to Moses who is to also go and speak to others)
 - ii) Ask, Question 2) Who is the audience?
 - (1) It is equally important to know who is being spoken/written to because God may be tell everyone or just one person to do or not do something (i.e. in Ex 20, the original audience is Israel, the people listening to Moses and those who will come after them)
 - iii) Ask, Question 3) What did the original author/speaker say to the original audience?
 - (1) It is important to understand what the original author was saying (or trying to say) to the original audience and not what we think he was trying to say. (i.e. in Ex 20, God tells Moses to tell Israel not to murder)
 - iv) Ask, Question 4) What is the timeless truth?
 - (1) Behind every command or statement there is a timeless truth that governs it. A timeless truth is that which is applicable to everyone at every time (i.e. in Ex 20,

the timeless truth is that murder is a sin therefore Moses told Israel, ‘do not murder’)

- v) Ask, Question 5) How can I apply/obey this timeless truth today?
 - (1) While we may or may not be able to directly apply each text, we can always apply the timeless truth to our lives. This is what God expects us to learn and do as a result of reading a text. (i.e. you should not murder because murder is a sin.)
 - (2) NEVER ASK ‘what does this text mean to me/you’... ASK ‘what does this text mean.’
- vi) Lets try it
 - (1) History – Matthew 4:1-10
 - (2) Law – Deuteronomy 6:4-9
 - (3) Poetry – Psalm 119:97-104
 - (4) Letter – 2 Timothy 3:16-4:5
 - (5) Prophecy – Revelation 22:12-21

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4) Apply ALL that you have read and studied in God’s Word

- a) Revelation 1:3 *Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.*
- b) Luke 11:28 *But He said, "On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it."*
- c) Memorize it, Write it down, Tell it to others, and DO IT

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Putting it Together

1. Do you have a Bible? Is it a reliable translation?
2. Why is it important to have a Pastor/teacher to teaches out of the Bible?
3. What is it important to read and study the Bible every day, and follow along in church?
4. Why do you think people do not read the Bible?
5. Do you think it is possible to grow in your Christian maturity and not study your Bible?
6. Why do you think people disagree or want to argue with or change the Bible?
7. Why do you think people go to other sources for help and not the Bible?
8. Why should you read the Bible every day?
9. What are the 4 things I should do with God’s Word? (Believe, Read, Study, Apply)
10. Where or to whom do you go to when you have questions about the Bible?
11. What are the 5 questions that you should ask yourself when you read?
12. Did God write any “additional” sources of divine scripture that we need to read also? See Revelation 22:12-21 for the answer

Practice Assignments

1. Read and write down any insights that God gives and any questions you have about the text.
 - a. Monday James 1
 - b. Tuesday James 2
 - c. Wednesday James 3
 - d. Thursday James 4
 - e. Friday James 5-6
 - f. Saturday Matthew 5-7
2. Pray each day.
3. Tell someone this week about what Jesus has done for you and what He is doing in your life.
4. Participate in the worship service and take notes while listening to the Pastor's sermon about how you can apply the message that he preaching from God's Word in your life this week.

Memory Verse for Next Week

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension , will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Phil 4:6-7

Coming Up NEXT

Week 3) A Christian and their Prayer Time (How to Pray)

Closing Prayer