

Read Through The Bible  
Week 2 – Feb. 18-24, 2024  
Genesis 31-42; Matthew 12:1-15:9; Palm 9-12; Proverbs 2

**Icebreaker**

What is one of the worst deceptions you have ever seen?  
How do you remind yourself of what God has done in your life?  
What is the best nugget of wisdom you have ever heard?

**Step 1 - GET REAL**

What are you thankful for from the past week?  
What struggles did you face?  
What can you share from your personal Bible reading this week?  
Where did you see God in your daily life?

**Step 2: GET FED**

**Scripture**

**Genesis**

**Genesis 31** tells of Jacobs departure from Laban’s land. It is full of trickery and hard feelings. We also see several instances of God talking to Jacob and Laban.

**Genesis 31:3-18 (ESV)** <sup>3</sup> Then the **LORD** said to Jacob, “Return to the land of your fathers and to your kindred, and I will be with you.” ...<sup>17</sup> So Jacob arose and set his sons and his wives on camels. <sup>18</sup> He drove away all his livestock, all his property that he had gained, the livestock in his possession that he had acquired in Paddan-aram, to go to the land of Canaan to his father Isaac.

**Genesis 31:44-50 (ESV)** <sup>44</sup> Come now, let us make a covenant, you and I. And let it be a witness between you and me.” <sup>45</sup> So Jacob took a stone and set it up as a pillar. <sup>46</sup> And Jacob said to his kinsmen, “Gather stones.” And they took stones and made a heap, and they ate there by the heap. <sup>47</sup> Laban called it Jegar-sahadutha, but Jacob called it Galeed. <sup>48</sup> Laban said, “**This heap is a witness between you and me today.**” Therefore he named it Galeed, <sup>49</sup> and Mizpah, for he said, “**The LORD watch between you and me, when we are out of one another’s sight.**” <sup>50</sup> If you oppress my daughters, or if you take wives besides my daughters, although no one is with us, see, **God is witness between you and me.**”

**Genesis 32** tells the story of Jacob going home and sending a message to his brother Esau. He also sends gifts to appease Esau. Finally Jacob wrestles with God and is blessed.

**Genesis 32:1-2 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup> Jacob went on his way, and **the angels of God met him.** <sup>2</sup> And when Jacob saw them he said, “**This is God’s camp!**” So he called the name of that place Mahanaim.

**Genesis 32:9-11 (ESV)** <sup>9</sup> And Jacob said, “**O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O LORD** who said to me, ‘Return to your country and to your kindred, that I may do you good,’ <sup>10</sup> **I am not worthy of the least of all the deeds of steadfast love and all the faithfulness that you have shown** to your servant, for with only my staff I crossed this Jordan, and now I have become two camps. <sup>11</sup> **Please deliver me from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I fear him, that he may come and attack me, the mothers with the children.**”

**Genesis 32:26-30 (ESV)** <sup>26</sup> Then he [the angel of God] said, “**Let me go, for the day has broken.**” But Jacob said, “**I will not let you go unless you bless me.**” <sup>27</sup> And he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” <sup>28</sup> Then he said, “**Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.**” <sup>29</sup> Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup> So **Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered.”**

**Genesis 33** relates Jacob’s joyous meeting with Esau and his return to Canaan.

**Genesis 33:4 (ESV)** <sup>4</sup> But Esau ran to meet him and embraced him and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept.

**Genesis 33:10-11 (ESV)** <sup>10</sup> Jacob said, “No, please, if I have found favor in your sight, then accept my present from my hand. For I have seen your face, which is like seeing the face of God, and you have accepted me. <sup>11</sup> Please accept my blessing that is brought to you, because **God has dealt graciously with me**, and because I have enough.” Thus he urged him, and he took it.

**Genesis 34** is full of deception and evil actions.

**Genesis 34:1-2 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup> Now Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to see the women of the land. <sup>2</sup> And when **Shechem** the son of Hamor the Hivite, the prince of the land, saw her, he **seized her and lay with her and humiliated her**.

**Genesis 34:22-23 (ESV)** <sup>22</sup> Only on this condition will the men agree to dwell with us to become one people—when every male among us is circumcised as they are circumcised. <sup>23</sup> **Will not their livestock, their property and all their beasts be ours? Only let us agree with them, and they will dwell with us.**”

**Genesis 34:30-31 (ESV)** <sup>30</sup> Then Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, “**You have brought trouble on me by making me stink to the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites and the Perizzites. My numbers are few, and if they gather themselves against me and attack me, I shall be destroyed, both I and my household.**” <sup>31</sup> **But they said, “Should he treat our sister like a prostitute?”**

**Genesis 35** portrays God changing Jacob’s name to Israel and His command for Jacob to move to Bethel. God’s promise to Jacob is reiterated. Rachel’s and Isaac’s deaths are also related.

**Genesis 35:1-4 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup> God said to Jacob, “**Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there. Make an altar there to the God who appeared to you when you fled from your brother Esau.**” <sup>2</sup> So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, “**Put away the foreign gods that are among you and purify yourselves and change your garments.**” <sup>3</sup> Then let us arise and go up to Bethel, so that **I may make there an altar to the God who answers me in the day of my distress and has been with me wherever I have gone.**” <sup>4</sup> So they gave to Jacob all the foreign gods that they had, and the rings that were in their ears. Jacob hid them under the terebinth tree that was near Shechem.

**Genesis 35:11-12 (ESV)** <sup>11</sup> And God said to him, “**I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall come from your own body.**” <sup>12</sup> The land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you, and I will give the land to your offspring after you.”

**Genesis 36** relates the lineage of Jacob.

**Genesis 37** The story of Joseph begins in Genesis 37 and continues for the rest of the book. Jacob’s dreams and his being sold into slavery by his brothers dominate this chapter.

**Genesis 37:3-4 (ESV)** <sup>3</sup> Now **Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colors.** <sup>4</sup> **But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him.**

**Genesis 37:5 (ESV)** <sup>5</sup> Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers **they hated him even more.**

**Genesis 37:11 (ESV)** <sup>11</sup> **And his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the saying in mind.**

**Genesis 37:18-21 (ESV)** <sup>18</sup> They saw him from afar, and before he came near to them they conspired against him to kill him. <sup>19</sup> They said to one another, “Here comes this dreamer. <sup>20</sup> Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams.” <sup>21</sup> **But when Reuben heard it, he rescued him out of their hands, saying, “Let us not take his life.”**

**Genesis 37:36 (ESV)** <sup>36</sup> Meanwhile the Midianites had sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard.

**Genesis 38** The story of Judah and Tamar is told in chapter 38. Certainly a convoluted story.

**Genesis 38:7 (ESV)** <sup>7</sup> **But Er, Judah’s firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD put him to death.**

**Genesis 38:9-10 (ESV)** <sup>9</sup> **But Onan knew that the offspring would not be his. So whenever he went in to his brother’s wife he would waste the semen on the ground, so as not to give offspring to his brother.** <sup>10</sup> **And what he did was wicked in the sight of the LORD, and he put him to death also.**

**Genesis 38:14 (ESV)** <sup>14</sup> she took off her widow’s garments and covered herself with a veil, wrapping herself up, and sat at the entrance to Enaim, which is on the road to Timnah. For she saw that **Shelah was grown up, and she had not been given to him in marriage.**

**Genesis 38:24-26 (ESV)** <sup>24</sup> About three months later Judah was told, “Tamar your daughter-in-law has been immoral. Moreover, she is pregnant by immorality.” And Judah said, “Bring her out, and let her be burned.” <sup>25</sup> As she was being brought out, she sent word to her father-in-law, “By the man to whom these belong, I am pregnant.” And she said, “Please identify whose these are, the signet and the cord and the staff.” <sup>26</sup> Then Judah identified them and said, “**She is more righteous than I, since I did not give her to my son Shelah.**” And he did not know her again.

**Genesis 39** The tangled story of Joseph and Potiphar’s wife.

**Genesis 39:2-6 (ESV)** <sup>2</sup> The **LORD was with Joseph**, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. <sup>3</sup> **His master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD caused all that he did to succeed in his hands.** <sup>4</sup> So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had. <sup>5</sup> From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, **the LORD blessed the Egyptian’s house for Joseph’s sake**; the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had, in house and field. <sup>6</sup> So he left all that he had in Joseph’s charge, and because of him he had no concern about anything but the food he ate. Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.

**Genesis 39:8-9 (ESV)** <sup>8</sup> But he refused and said to his master’s wife, “Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge. <sup>9</sup> He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife. **How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?**”

**Genesis 39:21-23 (ESV)** <sup>21</sup> **But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.** <sup>22</sup> And the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners who were in the prison. Whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. <sup>23</sup> **The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph’s charge, because the LORD was with him. And whatever he did, the LORD made it succeed.**

**Genesis 40** The dreams of the king of Egypt’s cupbearer and baker interpreted.

**Genesis 40:8 (ESV)** <sup>8</sup> They said to him, “We have had dreams, and there is no one to interpret them.” And Joseph said to them, “**Do not interpretations belong to God? Please tell them to me.**”

**Genesis 40:14-15 (ESV)** <sup>14</sup> **Only remember me, when it is well with you, and please do me the kindness to mention me to Pharaoh, and so get me out of this house.** <sup>15</sup> For I was indeed stolen out of the land of the Hebrews, and here also I have done nothing that they should put me into the pit.”

**Genesis 40:23 (ESV)** <sup>23</sup> **Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.**

**Genesis 41** Joseph interprets Pharaoh’s dreams, Joseph is appointed second in the kingdom and oversees the provisioning of Egypt for the years of famine to come.

**Genesis 41:1 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup> After two whole years, Pharaoh dreamed that he was standing by the Nile,

**Genesis 41:9-13 (ESV)** <sup>9</sup> Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, “I remember my offenses today... <sup>12</sup> A young Hebrew was there with us, a servant of the captain of the guard. **When we told him, he interpreted our dreams to us**, giving an interpretation to each man according to his dream. <sup>13</sup> **And as he interpreted to us, so it came about.** I was restored to my office, and the baker was hanged.”

**Genesis 41:16 (ESV)** <sup>16</sup> Joseph answered Pharaoh, “**It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer.**”

**Genesis 41:37-40 (ESV)** <sup>37</sup> This proposal pleased Pharaoh and all his servants. <sup>38</sup> And Pharaoh said to his servants, “**Can we find a man like this, in whom is the Spirit of God?**” <sup>39</sup> Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discerning and wise as you are. <sup>40</sup> You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command. Only as regards the throne will I be greater than you.”

**Genesis 41:51-52 (ESV)** <sup>51</sup> Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh. “For,” he said, “**God has made me forget all my hardship and all my father’s house.**” <sup>52</sup> The name of the second he called Ephraim, “**For God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction.**”

**Genesis 41:57 (ESV)** <sup>57</sup> Moreover, **all the earth came to Egypt to Joseph to buy grain**, because the famine was severe over all the earth.

**Genesis 42**

**Genesis 42:6-9 (ESV)** <sup>6</sup> Now Joseph was governor over the land. **He was the one who sold to all the people of the land.** And Joseph’s brothers came and bowed themselves before him with their faces to the ground. <sup>7</sup> **Joseph saw his brothers and recognized them, but he treated them like strangers and spoke roughly to them.** “Where

do you come from?" he said. They said, "From the land of Canaan, to buy food." <sup>8</sup> And Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him. <sup>9</sup> And **Joseph remembered the dreams that he had dreamed of them...**

**Genesis 42:14-16 (ESV)** <sup>14</sup> But Joseph said to them, "It is as I said to you. You are spies. <sup>15</sup> By this you shall be tested: by the life of Pharaoh, **you shall not go from this place unless your youngest brother comes here.** <sup>16</sup> Send one of you, and let him bring your brother, while you remain confined, that **your words may be tested, whether there is truth in you.** Or else, by the life of Pharaoh, surely you are spies."

**Genesis 42:38 (ESV)** <sup>38</sup> But he said, "**My son shall not go down with you, for his brother is dead, and he is the only one left.** If harm should happen to him on the journey that you are to make, you would bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to Sheol."

## Matthew

**Matthew 12:7-8 (ESV)** <sup>7</sup> And if you had known what this means, '**I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,**' you would not have condemned the guiltless. <sup>8</sup> For the Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath."

**Matthew 12:13-14 (ESV)** <sup>13</sup> Then he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And the man stretched it out, and it was restored, healthy like the other. <sup>14</sup> But **the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him.**

**Matthew 12:34-37 (ESV)** <sup>34</sup> You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. <sup>35</sup> **The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.** <sup>36</sup> I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, <sup>37</sup> for **by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.**"

**Matthew 12:49-50 (ESV)** <sup>49</sup> And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>50</sup> For **whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.**"

**Matthew 13** has numerous parables. Perhaps the most well known is that of the Sower, but also those of the Weeds, Leaven, Pearl of Great Price, and the Mustard Seed. These parables speak to the status of our hearts, the power of the Word of God, and the nature and value of the kingdom.

## Matthew 14

**Matthew 14:25-27 (ESV)** <sup>25</sup> And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

**Matthew 15:7-9 (ESV)** <sup>7</sup> You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: <sup>8</sup> "This people honors me with their lips, but **their heart is far from me;** <sup>9</sup> in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

## Psalms

**Psalms 9:17-18 (ESV)** <sup>17</sup> The wicked shall return to Sheol, all the nations that forget God. <sup>18</sup> For **the needy shall not always be forgotten, and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever.**

**Psalms 10:1 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup> Why, O LORD, do you stand far away? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?

**Psalms 10:4 (ESV)** <sup>4</sup> In the pride of his face the wicked does not seek him; all his thoughts are, "There is no God."

**Psalms 10:6 (ESV)** <sup>6</sup> He says in his heart, "I shall not be moved; throughout all generations I shall not meet adversity."

**Psalms 10:11 (ESV)** <sup>11</sup> He says in his heart, "God has forgotten, he has hidden his face, he will never see it."

**Psalms 10:14 (ESV)** <sup>14</sup> But you do see, for you note mischief and vexation, that you may take it into your hands; to you the helpless commits himself; you have been the helper of the fatherless.

**Psalms 11:4 (ESV)** <sup>4</sup> **The LORD is in his holy temple;** the LORD's throne is in heaven; his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man.

**Psalms 12:6 (ESV)** <sup>6</sup> **The words of the LORD are pure words,** like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.

## Proverbs

**Proverbs 2:1-2 (ESV)** <sup>1</sup> My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, <sup>2</sup> making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding;

**Proverbs 2:5-6 (ESV)** <sup>5</sup> then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. <sup>6</sup> For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;

**Proverbs 2:9-10 (ESV)** <sup>9</sup> Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity, every good path; <sup>10</sup> for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;

**Proverbs 2:16-17 (ESV)** <sup>16</sup> So you will be delivered from the forbidden woman, from the adulteress with her smooth words, <sup>17</sup> who forsakes the companion of her youth and forgets the covenant of her God;

**Proverbs 2:20-22 (ESV)** <sup>20</sup> So you will walk in the way of the good and keep to the paths of the righteous. <sup>21</sup> For the upright will inhabit the land, and those with integrity will remain in it, <sup>22</sup> but the wicked will be cut off from the land, and the treacherous will be rooted out of it.

## Questions

### Genesis

**(Gen. 31)** God spoke to Jacob and Laban. How does God speak to us today?

What promise was made to Jacob in verse 3? Do we have this promise today? Are there conditions on this promise for us?

Jacob and Laban made a covenant between them. How important were covenants in that day? How important are they now? Do we consider God as a witness between us today? Should we?

**(Gen 32)** Jacob said he was not worthy of the steadfast love and faith that God had shown him. Do we recognize God's steadfast love and faith in our lives? How important is this love and faith for us?

Jacob prayed to God for deliverance from Esau? Do we pray for deliverance today?

Names meant much in Jacob's day. Jacob's name was changed to Israel which means "strives with God".

Penuel means "face of God". What do we have now that reminds us of God's influence in our lives? Do we need reminders like these in our lives?

**(Genesis 33)** How did Jacob feel about meeting Esau? How did Esau feel? How often are our perceptions about people different from what they actually are? What can this story tell us about our interactions with each other?

Jacob declares "God has dealt graciously with me." Can we make the same declaration about our lives? Given all the troubles Jacob had been through, how could he say God had dealt graciously with him? How hard is it for us to recognize God's gracious actions in our lives?

**(Genesis 34)** Deception abounds on every side in this chapter? Should Shechem have dishonored Dinah? How much evil set in motion by his actions? How much evil is done today due to our sexual desires?

Why was Jacob so reluctant to act in this situation? How should Jacob's actions be viewed? How does selfishness and fear affect our actions today?

**(Genesis 35)** God instructs Jacob to go to Bethel. Jacob instructs his people to put away their foreign God and purify themselves. Why would Jacob give these instructions? Do we have any foreign gods we need to put away? What are some gods we have today that are not the true God?

God tells Jacob "*I am God Almighty.*" What does this description of God add to our understanding of Him? How does this description reinforce His promise to Jacob?

God reiterates his promise to Jacob to multiply his line and give him the land of Canaan. What does this demonstrate about God? (God's plan, love, and faithfulness.) Can we depend on these today?

**(Genesis 36)** Why is so much emphasis put on lineages in the Bible? What can we learn from these lineages?

**(Genesis 37)** Is there a favorite son or daughter in your family? How do you feel about that if you are not the favorite? How should we feel?

Jacob kept Joseph's dream in mind. Do we keep the words of God in mind?

Reuben kept his brothers from killing Joseph and planned to rescue him from the pit. How often are we the one that does the right thing when everyone else is doing wrong?

The Midianite traders sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiohar. This will be an important point in the future. Do we recognize God's hand in our lives.

**(Genesis 38)** Both Er and Onan were wicked in the sight of the Lord. The Lord put them to death. How do we feel about the judgement of God on them? Are we under the same penalty today?

Why did Judah not kill Tamar for her immorality as was prescribed by law?

**(Genesis 39)** Why did Joseph succeed in Egypt? Why did Potiphar trust Joseph and give him great responsibility? Why did the keeper of the prison give Joseph great responsibilities? How much difference does it make if God is with us? How could Joseph consider it success even though he was in prison? Who would Joseph's sleeping with Potiphar's wife be a sin against? Do we consider our sin today to be against God?

**(Genesis 40)** Do we forget that the interpretation of dreams belongs to God? Do we think we are doing things by our power or ability?

The cupbearer forget Joseph. Have we ever forgotten our friends?

**(Genesis 41)** How long did it take the cupbearer to remember Joseph? How do you think Joseph felt during this time? How would you feel?

Joseph told Pharaoh that interpreting dreams was not in him, but was from God? Do we recognize all comes from God? Do we take credit for God's work?

Joseph named his sons based on God's work in his life. Do we have reminders of God's work in our lives?

**(Genesis 42)** Joseph recognized his brothers and remembered the dreams he had dreamed about them. How do you think Joseph felt when he recognized his brothers? Have you been away from your family for a long time? How did you feel when you saw them again? Are you separated from your family because of some event(s)? How can you reconcile?

Why would Joseph require the younger brother to be brought to him? How did Jacob feel about letting Benjamin go to Egypt? How would you have felt if you were Jacob? What offer did Reuben make? Would his sons substitute for Benjamin in Jacob's eyes? What decision do you think you would have made in you were Jacob?

## **Matthew**

**(Matthew 12)** Matthew repeats Christ's declaration of "I desire mercy and not sacrifice." Again, we see that Christ's law is different from the Pharisaical interpretation of the law. Where have you shown mercy this week? To whom have you revealed God's mercy this week?

The Pharisees looked for ways to destroy Christ. Why? What are we holding to that negates the love of Christ? Good and evil come from the heart. What is coming from our heart?

Are we Christ's family? How do we know, according to Christ?

**(Matthew 13)** Which soil is your heart?

In the parable of the weeds, are you the good seed or the weeds? What will be your final end, shining like the sun or burning in a furnace? Similarly, in the parable of the Net, are you a good fish or bad?

Is the kingdom growing like a mustard seed through you? How large will it get?

How are you helping the kingdom be like leaven, leavening the world?

What is the value of the kingdom as shown in verses 44 and 45? What have you sold to obtain it?

Can you bring both new and old treasures out of your storeroom?

Would Christ be able to do miracles in your life or be stifled because of unbelief?

**(Matthew 14)** Chapter 14 is a chapter of miracles, feeding the five thousand, walking on water, and healing the sick. It begins with the tragic tale of the death of John the Baptist. How could someone be mad enough at someone to have them beheaded? Does anything similar to this happen today? How can we prevent this in our lives?

What power of Jesus does the feeding of the 5,000 demonstrate? How do some people explain away this miracle? Do you believe in miracles or assume they cannot happen?

Why did Jesus go up on the mountain? How often do we take opportunities like this? How necessary is this for us?

*"Take heart. It is I. Be not afraid."* How comforting can this be for us? When did Peter begin to sink? Had he fully taken into account Christ's statement just a few minutes earlier? Are we like Peter? How much power was necessary to still the storm?

Have we recognized the healing power of Christ like the Gennesaret people?

**(Matthew 15)** Where is our heart? Do we honor only with our lips? Are we teaching commandments of men (traditions) as doctrine?

## **Psalms**

**Psalm 9** What will happen to the wicked?

**Psalm 10** Have you ever felt like the Lord is far away or has hid Himself in times of trouble?

The wicked say, "*There is no God.*" Or "*He has hidden His face. He will never see it.*" Isn't this what atheists say today? Do we think "God will never see it."?

**Psalm 11** What comfort should it give us that "*The LORD is in His holy temple.*"? What hope?

**Psalm 12** "*The words of the LORD are pure words.*" Do we act like this is true?

## **Proverbs**

**Proverbs 2** If we receive God's words, what will we receive? How are we doing in this respect?

### **Step 3: GET ACTIVE**

Reread Genesis 37. Write down the different sins that are revealed in this chapter, such as jealousy. How prevalent are these sins today? Think about your life. Which of these sins are in your life? Select one sin and make a plan to reduce it in your life.

In Matthew 14:27 Jesus tells the apostles "*Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.*" In what situations are you afraid? Think about how you can use Jesus's words to strengthen you in these situations.

Palm 10 lists several actions of the wicked and the consequences of those actions. Review these actions and resolve not to commit them.

Proverbs 2 lists some of the methods and benefits of gaining the wisdom of God. Write down those methods. Practice at least one of those methods this week. Write down the benefits you receive as a result.