

Values
What is Important to Us?
Week 01: The Scriptures

Scripture

Various

Series

Week 1: The Scriptures

The Holy Spirit of God and the Word of God enable us to do the will of God

Week 2: Discipleship

Every member a minister of the Gospel

Week 3: One Another

Together we can do more

Week 4: Missions

Do for one what we wish we could do for all

Week 5: Relationships

The larger we grow, the smaller we must grow

Motivation (Why They Need to Know It)

MISSION - Why do we exist?

To lead people from *where they are* to *where God wants them to be*

The first key to accomplish this is **The Scriptures**.

The Holy Spirit of God and the Word of God enable us to do the will of God

Hebrews 4:12 (NLT) For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. **13** Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.

“...word is pictured as God’s personal utterance, living, active, sharp, piercing, and discerning, with eyes that expose. The Word of God then acts as God himself, so that one’s innermost thoughts and intentions are exposed. This happens constantly in Christians’ lives. - *ESV Study Bible*”

Information (What They Need to Know)

How do I value the Scriptures so that they become my foundation for faith and practice?

Three Phases of Learning to Value the Scriptures...

Step #1: Detox - *the process of trading good for better; trading harm for health;*

- Trading *good* for *better* (pruning)

John 15:1 (NLT) “I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. **2** He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn’t produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more.”

- Trading *harm* for *health* (transforming)

Romans 12:2 (NLT) Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Step #2: Appetite Development - *a desire to satisfy a need*

Duty turns to delight (this is a Divine work of the Spirit).

Psalms 1:1 (NLT) Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. **2** But they delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night. **3** They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do.

- Continue resisting the wrong voices
- Delight and meditate on the Scriptures (thought that leads to action)

Responsive Reading (*I read one verse. Congregation reads one verse*)

Psalms 119

1 Joyful are people of integrity, who follow the instructions of the Lord.

2 Joyful are those who obey his laws and search for him with all their hearts.

3 They do not compromise with evil, and they walk only in his paths.

4 You have charged us to keep your commandments carefully.

5 Oh, that my actions would consistently reflect your decrees!

6 Then I will not be ashamed when I compare my life with your commands.

7 As I learn your righteous regulations, I will thank you by living as I should!

8 I will obey your decrees. Please don’t give up on me!

9 How can a young person stay pure? By obeying your word.

10 I have tried hard to find you— don’t let me wander from your commands.

11 I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

- **Personal (you)**
 - A Bible
 - A Notebook (Regular Notebook, Scribe Bible Journal,
 - A Pen
 - HEAR Method Videos (Highlight, Explain, Apply, Respond)
- **Familial (your family, regardless of what that looks like)**
 - Kid's Bible or Resource (Jesus Storybook Bible, A Faith to Grow On, New City Catechism, RightNow Media)
 - Article for Helping Teens
- **Congregational (the body of Christ)**
 - Sunday gatherings (children, students, adults)
 - Bible Minor
 - Other opportunities

Step #3: Determination - *the power to continue in failure or victory*

Colossians 2: 6 (NLT) And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. **7** Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

- The first step is salvation, but it's not the last step
- The second step (a continual one) is following Christ
- Remember that roots grow slowly and can't often be seen above ground; however, what's done in private strengthens what is seen

2 Peter 1:3 (NLT) By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence.

Application (What They Need to Do)

Responsive Reading

Psalm 119

73 You made me; you created me. Now give me the sense to follow your commands.

74 May all who fear you find in me a cause for joy, for I have put my hope in your word.

75 I know, O Lord, that your regulations are fair; you disciplined me because I needed it.

76 Now let your unfailing love comfort me, just as you promised me, your servant.

77 Surround me with your tender mercies so I may live, for your instructions are my delight.