

WHAT'S NEXT FOR MY LIFE

Ryland Walter | September 9-10, 2023

Week 5: Choosing a Life Verse

For the WORD OF GOD is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.
Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

The Key To Bible Study is Asking Good Questions

1. Observation: What does it _____?

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16 (NIV)

2. Interpretation: What does it _____?

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him." ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. John 3:14-18 (NIV)

"Never read a Bible verse." ~ Greg Koukl, Stand To Reason

3. Correlation: What other _____ explain it?

They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵ they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!"

⁶ Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸ The Lord said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." ⁹ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.
Numbers 21:4-9 (NIV)

4. Application: What will I _____ about it?

- I will _____ God's love.
"For God so loved the world..."

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:10 (NIV)

- I will _____ God's gift.
"That he gave his one and only Son."

The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23 (NIV)

- I will _____ to God's offer.
"That whoever believes in him."

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.
Romans 10:9-10 (NIV)

- I will _____ on God's promise.
"Shall not perish but have eternal life."

We are now members of God's own family... Now we live in the hope of eternal life because Christ rose again from the dead. ⁴ And God has reserved for his children the priceless gift of eternal life; it is kept in heaven for you... ⁵ And God, in his mighty power, will make sure that you get there safely to receive it because you are trusting him.
1 Peter 1:3-5 (TLB)

Free Bible Study Resources

- Rock Brook App — Bible, Media
- BibleHub.com / BibleGateway.com
- Our Daily Bread Booklet / Podcast
- gotquestions.org
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- Growth Track & Small Group
- 30 Days to Understanding The Bible by Max Anders*

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1. Observation: What does it say?

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John 3:16 (NIV)

2. Interpretation: What does it mean?

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him." ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. John 3:14-18 (NIV)

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- I will receive God's gift.
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The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23 (NIV)

- I will respond to God's offer.
"That whoever believes in him."

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.
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- I will rely on God's promise.
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CHOOSING A LIFE VERSE

Talk-it-Over Notes | September 9-10, 2023

REVIEW IT

The Word of God is the most powerful thing in existence. The entire universe was created by the Word of God. Jesus healed simply by His word. The Word of God has supernatural power to change us. God has given us access to His Word through The Holy Bible. A great way to have God's power in your life is to have a life verse. A call to action that you've memorized and is personal to you. God can use it to help you fight temptation, be inspired, live by faith and remember his promises when life is hard.

You also want to know what it means. The key to understanding the Bible is to ask good questions. You can better discern any Bible verse by asking... What does it say? What does it mean? What other verses explain it? And, what will I do about it? Let's do that with John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16 (NIV)

Spend some time in the word: Read John chapter 3

TALK ABOUT IT

1. A life verse is a Bible verse or a short passage of Scripture that you reflect on and turn to frequently. It is a verse often committed to memory. However, sometimes, it may be difficult to find the verse that speaks to you during this season of your life. After all, there are 31,102 verses in the Bible. All have the potential to touch us and transform us. Have you chosen a life verse? How do you recommend going about it?
2. What stood out to you in this week's message and exercise with John 3:16?
3. When we think of salvation, we often think of how good someone is or how bad someone might be. How does the connection to the snake bite change that perspective?
4. Of the four ways to respond to John 3:16, which do you need to do most?

ACT ON IT

Ask God to help you choose a life verse, and choose one. Don't wait long. Choose one to understand and memorize. If you don't know where to begin, consider looking through this list at www.biblegateway.com/blog/2009/05/the-100-most-read-bible-verses-at-biblegateway.com/

PRAY ABOUT IT

Ask how you can pray for a support one another this week and then close in prayer.