

GOD'S WORD IS OUR TRUSTWORTHY GUIDE FOR ALL OF LIFE

YEAR: TRANSFORM / FOCUS: I AM GROWING
SERIES: GOD IS THE TEACHER - I AM A STUDENT

BIG TRUTH: GOD'S WORD IS OUR TRUSTWORTHY GUIDE FOR ALL OF LIFE

Ezra 7:10; Jeremiah 9:23-24; Matthew 5:17-18; John 1:1; Hebrews 1:1-4; James 1:21-25

BIBLE VERSE: 2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness."

BIG IDEAS

- All Scripture is inspired by God.
- Scripture teaches us how to love God most and flourish in all of life.
- Jesus followers must become creatures of the Word.

BIBLE PASSAGE: 2 TIMOTHY 3:10-17

TRANSFORM - I AM GROWING

The Transform Year is an exploration of what it means to become a "new creation" in Jesus. (2 Corinthians 5:17) In order for this to happen, we must first find our identity in Him. Many of us live in a consistent state of identity crises. We wrestle with questions like who am I, where do I belong, why do I exist? The answer to these questions is found in Jesus. Our prayer for this semester is that like the Apostle Paul we would be able to say, "I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." (Galatians 2:20).

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know that...

- God is the teacher; wisdom and truth come from Him alone.
- Our understanding is limited, broken, and jaded by sin.



Every student should feel...

- Wonder and awe that God has chosen to make Himself known to sinners like us through His Word.
- Overwhelmed by your need for God's wisdom and knowledge found in His Word.



Every student should strive to...

- Use the workouts consistently as a tool to help you grow in your study of God's Word.
- Start a Bible reading plan with a friend or mentor.
- Start memorizing and meditating on the Bible Verse from your workouts.



Every student should ask God to...

- Give you a hunger for the Word.
- Give you perseverance to press on in your pursuit of Him.
- Cultivate heart of humility by helping you see your need for His Word.

GUIDES AND WORKOUTS

The Guide provides a commentary page on each week's Bible verse and on each Big Idea that unpacks the Big Truth. Each week also includes a Student Workout as a resource to help the student pursue spiritual disciplines on their own. Additionally, each week has a Family Workout that helps equip parents and guardians to have spiritual conversations with their student.



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BIBLE VERSE: 2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness."

The Bible is the written word of God.

"All Scripture is breathed out by God..."

- The Bible is God's Word written down for mankind. The human authors of the Bible wrote down the Word of God given to them through supernatural, divine inspiration. They did not write down their own words or thoughts. God used them to write down His Word so that mankind would have His Word in written form.
- Every part of the Bible is from God. This means that all of Scripture holds the authority of God because it is from Him. There is no part of the Bible that we can take away or consider less valuable or authoritative. Every word is the Word of God. There is no error in any part of God's Word. It is true and perfect.

All of Scripture profits mankind.

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable..."

- God gave His Word in written form for the benefit of His people. The Bible is the most beneficial and profitable book to a follower of Christ. Every part of God's Word can bring blessing to the person who believes it and obeys it.
- God's Word is intentional and every part of it is necessary. We cannot dismiss parts of God's Word as not relevant or unnecessary because every word is the living and active Word of God.

Scripture equips believers for God's work and His plan for their life.

"...profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness."

- Scripture profits a believer because it teaches a person how to live for God. It teaches us about God, revealing to us through the Old and New Testament, who God is and how He interacts with the world. Scripture teaches us how to live a life that glorifies God and how to love one another.
- Scripture serves as a way of showing believers their sin and the attitudes and behaviors that do not glorify God. Scripture teaches the body of Christ how to be His body effectively and it serves to minister to every heart that seeks God through it.

BIG IDEA #1: ALL SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED BY GOD.¹**[THIS]**

The Bible is not an ordinary book. It is the written Word of God. Paul writes to Timothy of the Bible's divine inspiration in 2 Timothy 3:15-16. He reminds Timothy that it is God who gave His Word to be written down. He also reminds Timothy of the power of God's Word to bring people to salvation. God gave His Word to the men He chose to be the authors of the Bible. These men did not write their words, but wrote God's Word as He supernaturally inspired them to write. The Bible is eternal because God is eternal. His Word has always been, even before it was written down and it will always be.

[THEREFORE]

How does the truth that the Bible is inspired by God affect your view of Scripture?

Hebrews 4:12 teaches us that God's Word is living and active. It works actively in the hearts of men. 2 Timothy 4:3-4 reminds us that when we do not view God's Word as inspired by Him, we can easily turn away from it and follow after false teachers and false religions.

[THIS]

The Bible is God's gift to the world. It is the way He has ordained for people to know Him. It holds the same authority as God Himself because it is His Word. The Bible is not just a good option to consider when trying to figure out our lives. It must be taken as what it is, which is the Word of God. It is authoritative and holds power over our lives because it is from God. It has power to bring people to salvation and to reveal the one true God to them. It is not the work of man, but the work of God through the men He chose to be the authors of the Bible. It can be trusted as sacred because it is from God.

[THEREFORE]

Read 2 Timothy 3:15-16. How does a right view of Scripture lead you to greater obedience to it?

Proverbs 14:12 tells us that we may think we know a right or better way to live, but God knows what is best. His Word is the way we can follow the only way to true life and joy. Ephesians 4:12 speaks to what could happen when we are not grounded in God's Word because we have not valued it as His Word. Psalm 119:105 expresses a heart that has a right view of God's Word and obeys it.

What does it look like practically for a Jesus follower to submit to the authority of Scripture?

Hebrews 1:1-4 shows us that Jesus is the Word of God in the flesh and that the Bible is the Word of God written down. There is no difference in authority between Jesus as the Word of God and the written Word of God. 2 Timothy 3:16 teaches us that all Scripture is given by God, thus meaning that all of Scripture has authority over man's life. James 1:22 teaches us that believers are to obey God's Word.

1. 2 Timothy 3:15-16: Scripture is from God. It is divinely inspired and supernaturally given to the world.

BIG IDEA #2: SCRIPTURE TEACHES US HOW TO LOVE GOD MOST AND HOW TO FLOURISH IN ALL OF LIFE.²**[THIS]**

Paul teaches in 2 Timothy 3:16-17 that God's Word is the authoritative guide for all people. First, Scripture guides us to know God and to love Him above all else. God's Word teaches us how to love God the way we are commanded to love Him. It shows us how God loves and reveals to us what it looks like to obey and love God. Second, Scripture guides us to repentance and helps us obey all of God's commands. It is in God's Word that we learn what pleases God and how to bring Him glory with our lives. We also learn that in order for us to love God the most, we will obey His Word. This obedience to His Word reveals that our hearts love God above any other person or thing in our life.

[THEREFORE]**How has the Bible led you to a greater love for God?**

1 John 4:19 reminds us that it is God's love for us that teaches us how to love. We learn about the depth of God's love from His Word. John 14:15 teaches us that when we keep His commandments, we show we love Him. We know His commandments when we know His Word. 1 John 5:3-5 teaches us that loving God means keeping His commands and knowing His Word.

[THIS]

Paul teaches the value and power of Scripture in 2 Timothy 3:16-17. Scripture has the power to transform lives. When we read and study Scripture, we grow in our righteousness because God's Word is active and powerful. It is through His Word that God shows us how to live for His kingdom. When we follow His Word, we follow a path to holiness. We gain God's wisdom, which applies to every aspect of our lives. Our spiritual lives flourish when we learn from Scripture God's commands and obey them. We will grow to be more like Christ through our reading and studying of God's Word. When we learn Scripture in context and apply the whole Bible to our lives, we walk in God's wisdom and not our own.

[THEREFORE]**How have you found wisdom for a situation in your life through your reading of Scripture?**

Psalms 16:11 teaches us that God gives wisdom to those who seek Him and He reveals a way of living that brings joy and fullness of life. James 1:21-25 teaches us that it is easy for us to forget the right way to live, but God's Word guides us to right living, particularly when we obey it.

In what ways have you had your sin revealed to you or seen ways in which you need to grow through a study of God's Word?

Psalms 32:8 reveals the promise that God will instruct us and guide us. He does this through His Word. Psalm 25:4-5 also teaches us that God is our guide and teacher and He does so through His written Word. Isaiah 58:11 stands as a promise to every person who seeks God in His Word. He will give guidance, correction, and knowledge to those who seek Him in His Word.

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17: God's Word is profitable to man. It changes lives and hearts.

BIG IDEA #3: JESUS FOLLOWERS MUST BECOME CREATURES OF THE WORD.³**[THIS]**

God's Word is powerful in every way. Paul writes of this power in 2 Timothy 3:17 when he teaches that the Word of God equips God's people for His work. Reading and studying God's Word is how we can become creatures of Scripture. Scripture is living and active. As we read and meditate upon it, it has the power to transform us. It changes our thoughts, emotions, and impacts our actions. In order to truly know Scripture, we must discipline ourselves to read it and meditate upon it. When we read it, we do so acknowledging its authority as the written Word of God.

[THEREFORE]**What keeps you from becoming a "creature of the Word"?**

Psalm 119:11 shows us that it requires action on our part to store God's Word in our hearts. When we are distracted from God's Word and lack discipline, we will not become a "creature of the Word". Proverbs 3:1-2 teaches us that we have to work to hide God's Word in our hearts. 2 Timothy 2:15 also shows us the discipline and work required to become a "creature of the Word."

What are some right and wrong ways to read Scripture daily? How have your motivations for reading Scripture daily been right or wrong?

In Acts 2:42-43, 46, we see the early Christians devoting themselves to the reading of the Word of God. John 15:7 teaches us that when we abide in His Word, we will grow in our relationship with Him. If we quickly read Scripture with the motive to say we've read Scripture instead of reading it to have our hearts changed, we are reading with the wrong motive. If we seek to read Scripture out of context and find ourselves making it say what we want it to, we've approached it with the wrong heart.

[THIS]

Studying Scripture is going deeper into God's Word, seeking to know and understand God's truth. It is different than just reading it because it is a deeper seeking to understand smaller portions of Scripture for spiritual growth. We are complete and equipped for every good work when we study God's Word. We grow spiritually as we study His Word because we are intentionally seeking to have Scripture illuminated to us. The more we study, the more we will know, and the more we know, the more we will want to know. Our study of Scripture will lead to a greater love for God and desire to obey His commands that our lives might bring Him glory in every way. A study of His Word will produce Christ-likeness in us.

[THEREFORE]**How have you experienced life change through your study of God's Word?**

2 Timothy 2:15 shows us that when we study Scripture, we will be rooted and grounded in our knowledge of our faith and able to share with others. 1 Peter 3:15 reminds us of the importance of being able to give a defense of our faith.

How is studying the Word different than reading it?

Reading Scripture awakens us and studying Scripture deepens our faith and our understanding. Proverbs 2:1-5 shows us that when we study God's Word, we will receive knowledge and understanding.

3. 2 Timothy 3: 17: *The Word of God equips believers for the work of God.*