

## The Bible - January 2021

The 30 Essentials is designed for a small group study. The essential studied should coincide with the sermon. You may divide the study in four weekly studies, bi-weekly or monthly. This study includes a video which should be used to complete the video segment section.

Each session should start with a review of the Pastor's sermon. Discuss the main points, the take-away, and scripture references. Then continue with the study below.

### MASTER KEYS

**Key Question:** How can I know God and his will for my life?

**Key Idea:** I believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God that guides my beliefs and action.

**Key Verse:** All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

### VIDEO SEGMENT QUESTIONS

As you watch the video segment for this session, use the following outline to answer some of the main points.

1. Key Question: How can I know God and his \_\_\_\_\_ for my life?
2. Key Idea: I believe the Bible is the inspired \_\_\_\_\_ of God that \_\_\_\_\_ my beliefs and action.
3. Key Verse: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."
4. The Psalmist writes: "Your word is \_\_\_\_\_ for my feet, a \_\_\_\_\_ on my path." Psalm 119:105
5. Key Application: The Bible is the \_\_\_\_\_ from which I \_\_\_\_\_ the world?
6. Key Application: I am \_\_\_\_\_ to study the Bible to understand God's will for my life. We need to be able to recall Scripture like Jesus did.
7. Key Application: The \_\_\_\_\_ in the Bible must govern my life even when I don't understand of like what it \_\_\_\_\_.

## EVALUATE

As a group, discuss your thoughts and feelings about the following declarations. Which statements are easy to declare with certainty? Which are more challenging and why? Use a scale of 1-6 to rate how strongly you believe the statements below. (1 = no belief at all, 6 = complete confidence)

_____	I believe the Bible is absolutely true in matters of faith and morals.
_____	I believe the words of the Bible are words from God.
_____	I believe the Bible has decisive authority over what I say and do.
_____	I believe the Bible is relevant to address the needs of contemporary culture.

## GROUP DISCUSSION

1. In what ways can the Bible inform and govern your decision making in the areas of business, family life, friendships, and recreation?

---



---



---

2. In what ways have you seen the Bible be specifically useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training?

---



---



---

3. How has understanding the Scriptures changed the way you see the world?

---



---



---

4. Many people are overwhelmed by the Bible, but it doesn't have to be that way. If you have any obstacles that get in the way of you reading and understanding God's Word, honestly confess them.

---



---



---

## BIBLE ENGAGEMENT

Read Exodus 20:1-21

1. How would the Ten Commandments reveal what is most important to God?

---

---

2. How would the world be different if all of humanity were guided by the Word of God?

---

---

3. Discuss ways that the Bible has clarified misconceptions you had about God's character.

---

---

4. How has the Bible given you a better understanding of who you are and your purpose in this world?

---

---

### TAKE ACTION

Memorizing scripture is a valuable discipline for all believers to exercise. Spend a few minutes each day committing the Key verse to memory 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

Recite the key idea out loud. I believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God that guides my beliefs and action. Answer the following questions to help apply the key idea to your own life.

1. How would this belief-in-action express itself in your life?

---

---

---

2. What visible attributes can be found in someone who knows and is directed by the Word of God.

---

---

3. If you have reservations about the reliability and/ or authority of Scripture, what is your plan for finding answers to your questions?

---

---

4. What is a reading plan or resource you can implement to deepen your understanding of God's Word?

---

---

5. What are some ways you can filter your thoughts and actions through the truth of God's Word?

---

---

## CASE STUDY

*Use the following case study as a model for a real-life situation where you might put this week's key idea into practice.*

Suzanne is a college student who attends your Bible study that meets at the local coffee shop on Thursday mornings. As the group discusses prayer requests, Suzanne expresses her need for wisdom in balancing her busy schedule. In the next seven days, she has to study for finals, write a research paper, and work four shifts in the university bookstore. A few days later you call to check on her. She still sounds stressed but appreciates the call. "Do you think you will be able to get everything done?" You ask. "yes, I've already taken two tests that went well, but I have one more that is really important. If I don't do well, I will have to take the class over again next semester. So, I'm thinking about using one of my roommate's research papers from last year. I'll change up the words a little so it sounds like me, but it will allow me more time to study for my test. It's kind of dishonest, but I don't see any other way to get everything done."

*Using the Key applications from this session, what could you say or do to help Suzanne see the importance of doing the right thing? (If needed, refer to your video notes for a reminder of this session's Key Applications.)*

---



---



---

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

The Bible is the inspired Word of God that guides our beliefs and action.

### DEVOTIONAL

2 Timothy 3:16–17 (ESV)

<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Remember the first time you walked outside in the winter as a child and you saw your breath? Perhaps you leaned too close to a window and saw moisture appear as you exhaled. The oxygen we breathe in becomes carbon dioxide in our lungs. These gases are both invisible, but as we exhale, the carbon dioxide mixes with water vapor, and because cold air has less water than the warm air from our lungs, it produces fog.

But what happens when God exhales? The word for “God-breathed” in 2 Timothy is *theophneustos*, and it gives us a clue. *Theo* means “God”; *pneustos* means “spirit” or “breathed.” The first time we see God exhaling is in Genesis when he is breathing life into the nostrils of Adam. In 2 Timothy we again see him breathing out, but instead of fog, God’s Spirit or breath becomes words on the tips of men’s pens. Those words bring life to all who study them.

*Next time you see your breath on a cold day, remember God exhaled and created life-sustaining words to live by. We call it the Bible.*

Page Break

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

The Bible is the inspired Word of God that guides our beliefs and action.

**PRAYER:** Close your time together with prayer. Share your prayer request with one another. Ask God to help you put this week’s Key Idea into practice.