The Bible

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

The Bible is sufficient to lead us to Christ
(2 Timothy 3:15,17)

The Bible is authoritative
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

The Bible is without error
(John 17:17)

The Bible is the Christian's joy and delight
(Psalm 1, Psalm 119:24)

THE LOVED BIBLE PROJECT

John 6:44-47

The Bible you possess is evidence that God loves you and wants a relationship with you. No matter who you are or how many times you've spurned his love, he is still moving toward you, still talking to you—still befriending you—through a book."

- Matt Smethurst, Before You Open Your Bible

The Bible is the Christian's joy and delight.

"As Christians, we come face to face with God through the Scriptures. We begin to understand who he is and what he has done for sinners like us. When we taste the goodness of God through the gospel, we delight. And this is a taste that we pray we can never get out of our mouths! So we work to meditate, to chew, to enjoy the Word of God and the God of the Word." - Erik Raymond

Sufficient:

ENOUGH, ADEQUATE, AMPLE, PLENTIFUL

66 Books of the Bible

Sixty-six books comprise the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. About 40 different human authors contributed, over a period of almost 1500 years. The authors were a diverse group: kings, fishermen, farmers, priests, government officials, shepherds, and doctors. The literary styles include books of law, history, poetry, wisdom, prophecy, biography, and formal letters. Yet, there's great unity with common themes woven throughout (Luke 1:1-5).

The Bible provides all that we need to Understand:

Who God is.

Who we are in relation to Him.

How He made us to live in this world He created.

[BREATHED OUT BY GOD]

[GOD CANNOT LIE]

The Bible is God's Word and as such, it contains his words for us.

Joy & Delight

Jesus

John 1:1-18 reminds us that the promises beginning in the book of Genesis and continuing through the entire Old Testament are finally realized in Jesus Christ. He is the promised Messiah. He's the answer to man's need for a Savior.

This man is far more than a man, he is God became man."

- Matt Carter

HIS RESURRECTION DEFEATED DEATH & BROUGHT NEW LIFE.

"Jesus was raised from the dead on the third day. **He is alive!** He lives for us and, by his Spirit, he lives in us and works through us."

- Jeff Vanderstelt, Saturate

Jesus rules as King over heaven & earth

JESUS WILL RETURN

SACRIFIED HIMSELF

GOOD SHEPHERD

CREATOR

NEW LIFE

IN CHRIST

"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." (Galatians 2:20)

"His life, yours. His righteousness, yours. His Father's favor, yours. His resurrection, yours. His holiness, yours. His love of the Father, yours. You are knit together with Christ."

Cale Fauver, For the Church

Gospel

what is the gospel?

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the good news of what Jesus did on our behalf through his life, death, resurrection, and ascension.

It's the work of God that saves, sanctifies, and sustains His people. All of humanity is born into a state of sin, without Christ and separated from God. That's the bad news. But God, because of his great love, made a way to restore us into his presence. This is the good news! He sent Jesus to be the perfect human—fully God and fully man—to take the punishment for the sins of all people who repent and believe in Him (John 3:16-18).

"True repentance is a hard turn away from all that doesn't please God to point our lives toward Him."

- Mary Wiley, Everyday Theology

To receive the gospel, Christians repent and believe.
Romans 10:9, Mark 1:15

the Gospel

- ☐ **saves** us,
- ☐ **sanctifies** us,
- ☐ and **sustains** us!
- ☐ We never grow out of our need for the gospel.

1 CORINTHIANS 15: 1-2

WE NEVER OUTGROW OUR NEED FOR THE GOSPEL

Sinners need the gospel for salvation; rescue from death. Saints need the gospel to grow in understanding of Christ and knowing how to live. And until Jesus returns, we continually need the gospel to sustain us, carrying us with hope, power, wisdom, and lasting joy.

1 Corinthians 15:1-2 describes how the gospel saves us, keeps working to sanctify us, and continually sustains us as we cling to the truth of God's Word.

NOTE THIS QUOTE

"In Christ, there is nothing I can do that would make You [God] love me more, and nothing I have done that makes You love me less. Your presence and approval are all I need for everlasting joy."

– J.D. Greear, Gospel

Identity

We live in the beginning of the end of the story that we're still in the middle of.
Anyone who loves this story longs to see the One [Jesus] who is the center of the story.

He's coming to make a new beginning and to finish what he started. **So keep waiting for him. Keep believing in him. Keep trusting that the story isn't over yet.**

God's promises never fail and the Promised One never disappoints."

- Kevin DeYoung, The Biggest Story

"My identity is found in not what I do, but it's found in whose I am."

AUSTIN STONE WORSHIP

"You are not valuable because of your stuff. You are not valuable because of your appearance. You are not valuable because of what you do. You are valuable because you were **made in the image of God.**"

Elizabeth Woodson

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ.

OUR PURPOSE

"No matter what our job is, we view it not as our purpose in life but rather as where God has sovereignly placed us for the purpose of making Christ known and his name great. If you are a teacher, if you are a politician, if you are a businessman, if you are in agriculture, if you are in construction, if you are in technology, if you are in the arts, then you should not be saying, 'I need to find my life's purpose in this work,' but rather, 'I need to bring God's purpose to this work.'"
-Matt Chandler, Explicit Gospel

Our relationship to Christ is the one that defines us

IDENTITY

WHO AM I?

RUN TO JESUS

Here are 4 liberating truths of the gospel

God is **great**, so we don't have to be in control.

God is **glorious**, so we don't have to fear others.

God is **good**, so we don't have to look elsewhere.

God is **gracious**, so we don't have to prove ourselves.

Everyday Church, by Tim Chester

Relationships

COMMUNITY

"We now have a new community in Christ. When God saves sinners, he brings them into community. This new community, called the Church, is made up of various groups of people, united in Jesus...Are we living out our corporate identity by belonging to a local, visible church? Do we have brothers and sisters with whom we love, serve, weep, rejoice, and celebrate? We were saved for community."

- Tony Merida

Love Earnestly

"Nowhere does the Bible say, 'Love one another moderately.' This world is a loving place. But our love is moderate, cautious, guarded. We make sure we don't get over-extended. **Jesus frees us to love earnestly.**"

- Ray Ortlund

JESUS-CENTERED

"A Jesus-centered community is an attractive community —a community that encourages, forgives, serves, loves, and invites non- Christians into its community." -Jonathan K. Dodson

Church on Sunday

Gospel community is a gift from God. Acts 2:42-47

"Sunday shouldn't be a chore to get out of the way. It should be a community response to God's glory and beauty and work in our lives."
- Jaquelle Crow

How to find a church

Scan this code to learn more about how to find a local church. There are a few search options that may help.

My prayer:

HUMILITY:

"When we seek the greater good of the Kingdom over our own personal preferences and desires...relationships can thrive amid imperfection and even offenses. We are not in competition; we are in community."
- Laura Wifler & Emily Jensen

RESPECT:

This literally means "to place a great value or high price on something." *1 Thess. 5:15, Col. 3:9, Gal. 5:26*
"Belonging to Christ means we also belong to everyone else who belongs to him. In Christ, we are part of the Church."
- *Megan Hill, Identity Theft*

ENCOURAGEMENT

God has given us each other to make it easier to live in a fallen world in a holy way. We must remind each other of the truth that God loves us, equips us, treasures us, and our struggles are worth it.

Change

IMPERFECT PEOPLE CLINGING TO A PERFECT CHRIST

"Gospel-centered discipleship is not about how we perform but who we are — imperfect people, clinging to a perfect Christ, being perfected by the Spirit."

Jonathan K. Dodson

GOD SHOWING US LOVE

"The cross is not just about sinners avoiding punishment— it is about God showing us love. The resurrection reminds
us of the mercy and grace that is bound up in the cross, grace that has the power to change a person through and through, even if that change is a gradual process."

- Jonathan Dodson, Raised? Finding Jesus by Doubting the Resurrection

Abide

"Abiding in Jesus will produce all the fruits of the Spirit in you, but not because you're concentrating specifically on any of them. You're concentrating instead on Jesus. You're resting in His love and acceptance. Then pretty soon you're growing more patience, developing greater self-discipline, becoming increasingly generous. It's the abiding difference of the Gospel."

- J.D. Greear, Gospel Devotional

Sanctification :

means being changed into the image or likeness of Jesus Christ.

BEAR MORE FRUIT

I NEEDED THIS:

Quit being paralyzed by your past. Grace offers you life in the present and a guarantee of a future."

PAUL DAVID TRIPP

"He must increase, but I must decrease."

John 3:30

For when you are hurting:

"If you are hurting, that is an opportunity to lean into God. It is an opportunity to learn something from God you might never know otherwise" - J.D. Greear

FACE LIFE WITH COURAGE

"AND WITH ETERNITY IN MIND, WE REMEMBER THAT WHATEVER WE DO IN THE BODY--- WHETHER IT'S EATING OR DRINKING, OR WORKING OUT, OR WHATEVER, WE SEEK TO DO TO THE GLORY OF GOD."

- Trillia Newbell, If God is For Us

Trust the Holy Spirit's empowering presence.

"The Gospel doesn't just bring about forgiveness of sins and save us from hell. The Gospel of Jesus Christ empowers us to live a whole new life today by the same Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead. There's no greater power than that."

- Jeff Vanderstelt, Gospel Fluency

Be Generous :

Be generous with the money and resources God has entrusted to you.

2 Corinthians 9:7-11, 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Prioritize time in prayer and studying the Bible alone and with others

"When we invest our time in what has eternal significance, we store up treasure in heaven."

JEN WILKIN

MY PRAYER:

"This is what he sent us to do: to tell the world about Jesus."

Harvey Turner, Friend of Sinners

WHEN YOU STUMBLE & FALL

"The marker of those who understand the gospel of Jesus Christ is that, when they stumble and fall, when they screw up, they run to God and not from him, because they clearly understand that their acceptance before God is not predicated upon their behavior but on the righteous life of Jesus Christ and his sacrificial death."

Matt Chandler
Explicit Gospel

"Plan ahead, hide God's Word in your heart, and pray in advance for victory, holiness, and a life pleasing to God."

David Jeremiah

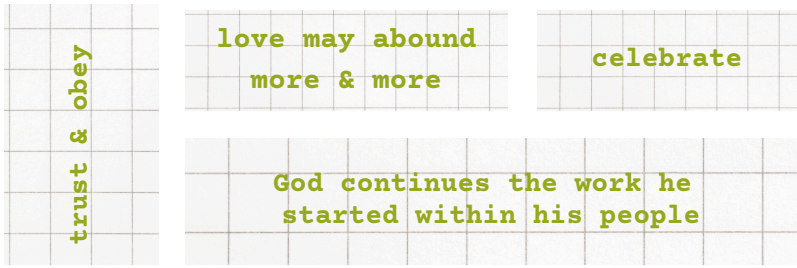
"Nothing can separate us from him and his love - not our fears, not our trials. We can run to God confidently because of Jesus."

Trillia Newbell

DOUBTS OR FEARS

When doubts or fears arise, look to God's Word to be reminded of his character and care for his people. Too often, those who base their salvation on their current battle against sin or perceived slowness of sanctification will either question their salvation or doubt God's involvement in their life. This can lead to what feels like paralysis of faith. The Christian life will have its ups and downs, yet God never abandons his people.

(Deuteronomy 31:6, Joshua 1:9, Matthew 28:20)



"Throughout Scripture, we see God's people facing impossible odds. Whether it be the Israelites against the powerful Egyptians (Ex. 14:13), the giants in the land (Num. 13), or the Assyrians (2 Chr. 32:7–8), God tells them not to fear. **He doesn't always tell them how he's going to provide; he simply tells them to trust and obey."**
- James Williams

"Making disciples requires not only 'sharing our faith,' but also sharing our lives—failures and successes, disobedience and obedience."

Jonathan Dodson

LIFE-ON-LIFE DISCIPLESHIP

"It is a life-on-life process of learning, where we see the gospel being displayed in our imperfect daily lives, desiring to see a multiplying effect of the transforming work of Jesus Christ."

- Confidence Mokgatle

MAKE DISCIPLES

"Being a disciple and discipling others means looking at Jesus with such intensity and delight that you actually begin to reflect his beauty in everyday life. The most important way you can disciple others is by enjoying Christ yourself in such an irresistible way that your enjoyment becomes contagious."

Jani Ortlund

THE LOVED BIBLE PROJECT

On the card above, write the name of one person you want to invest in. Invite them to Love a Bible with you! Cut it out and pray for them.

IN A CULTURE OF DISCIPLESHIP

- we read and speak the Word to each other.
- We spend time with each other.
- We pray for one another.
- We love.
- We give.
- We attend the weekly gathering prayerfully and with anticipation.
- We follow the examples of our leaders who show us how to follow Christ ourselves."