



encounter.

a step-by-step guide through Scripture

disciple:

// someone who follows Jesus and leads others to do the same.

Studying God's Word is one of the best ways to grow your relationship with God, be tuned to the Holy Spirit, and get to know Jesus intimately. John 1 tells us that the Word is God, the writer of Psalms tells us it will light our path, and Jesus tells us in John 8 if we abide in His Word, we are truly His disciples.

This tool is just one of the many ways to study the Bible and dive deeper into the passages we will be studying each weekend together. Our hope is that you begin to deeply understand the scripture we will be unpacking and allow God to speak to your heart before you even walk through the doors on Sunday.

This tool is designed to help guide you as you seek to understand the context of each verse, what it meant to its original audience, and what it means to us today.

There are a few ways you can utilize this PDF.

01

Print the PDF.

-or-

02

Download the PDF, open in a notes app (GoodNotes, Notability, etc), fill it out digitally.

-or-

03

Use the PDF to transcribe into a notebook or journal.

5 Marks of a Disciple

- Know Jesus Intimately
- Follow the Holy Spirit Relentlessly
- Obey God's Word Completely
- Love His Church Wholeheartedly
- Seek the Lost Intentionally



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Week of January 8st // Conversation January 14th




In 2023, we, as a church body, studied our way through the gospel of Luke. We are going to do the same in 2024, but this time, it's the book of Acts of the Apostles. It is the fifth book of the New Testament; it tells of the founding of the Christian Church and the spread of its message to the Roman Empire. Not everything the early church did was right, but they are an example for us to follow in their faith and their life.

pray.

This week's devotions involve references to the commands of God to "make every effort" in our relationship, both with Him and others. Ask God to speak to you from His Word. Ask Him to meet you where you are in your walk with Him. Ask Him for an open heart and mind.

observe.

Marking key words in passages of Scripture helps to draw your attention to the main ideas/themes. It causes you to slow down and absorb what you're reading.

- 01** Mark any reference to God with a triangle. Try to mark His other names and His pronouns. 
- 02** Underline every time the phrase, "make every effort" appears.
- 03** Mark every reference to the Holy Spirit with a cloud. 
- 04** Mark every reference to promise(s) with a heart. 

2 Peter 1:3-11 (NLT)

³ 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. ⁴ And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires.

⁵ In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, ⁶ and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, ⁷ and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.

⁸ The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ But those who fail to develop in this way are shortsighted or blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their old sins.

¹⁰ So, dear brothers and sisters, work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen. Do these things, and you will never fall away.

¹¹ Then God will give you a grand entrance into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 4:3-6 (NLT)

³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Hebrews 12:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

Romans 14:19 (NIV)

¹⁹ Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

interpret.

- 01** Who has given us everything we need to live a godly life?
- 02** We are to make every effort to respond to God's promises. Make a list of all the ways Peter mentions in 2 Peter 1:5-7.
- 03** What is required of us to see the Lord? (Hint: Hebrews 12:14)

apply.

- 01 Although we cannot earn our salvation, the scriptures state that we are to “make every effort” to grow in our responses to God’s promises, and we will be more productive and useful in our knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Reflect on an area that you need to improve in 2024. Think about the ways you can attempt that improvement.

bring it together.

One of the words in the Bible used to describe Christian growth is edification. Edification is the process of spiritual growth in a Christian who is living according to the plan of God and who is fulfilling the command to grow in the grace and in knowledge of Jesus Christ.

We, as Christians, are to understand that we are fully equipped to lead the life to which God has called us. The scriptures speak of the divine power of God, what it can do for us, and what it helps us to do for God. There are several qualities that we should strive for or “make every effort” to add to our lived-out faith.

God keeps all of His promises that He makes to us.

connect.

We are available to answer any questions you might have.



info@gtwy.church

We believe life is better in circles. Groups are a great place to grow in your relationship with other believers and find encouragement and accountability as you grow in your relationship with God.



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