



Discipleship Guide

BAPTIST STUDENT MINISTRIES

This Twelve Week Curriculum is meant to be a guide for you as you meet in discipleship pairs or groups with other members of the BSM. This material coincides with the UNT BSM Bible Reading Plan and is meant to complement our other BSM studies. As you meet regularly in weekly discipleship times you are encouraged to bring insights from your personal study throughout the week to the discussion.

Each week will follow the same format, a method commonly referred to as “Inductive Bible Study.” To study inductively means to closely and objectively study certain texts in depth and draw conclusions based on what you’ve pulled out of the text (as opposed to reading your own conclusions *into* the text). Inductive Bible Study follows three simple steps:

- **Observation** – What do you see? Dissect only what the text is saying. Don’t draw conclusions or move into application, take time to simply study the words and gain a clear grasp on what exactly it’s saying. Make note of interesting word use, word order and nuance, and pay attention to logical words, such as “therefore,” “so that,” “since,” etc. At this step it is helpful to look at different translation versions, or even look up the meaning of words in a dictionary. Strong’s Concordance and biblehub.com are good resources at this stage, but avoid looking at commentaries yet. (If you’re unfamiliar with these resources ask someone to help you!)
- **Interpretation** – What does it mean? What is the meaning of this text based on its context and other references in scripture? (Remember, no verse is an isolated statement, “scripture interprets scripture”. We must use clearer texts to help us interpret the meaning of less clear texts.) You might want to consult some commentaries or a study bible at this point (again, biblehub.com is a great place to start)
- **Application** – What do we do? How does this text apply to me in my life? What would it look like for us to walk in obedience to the meaning of this text? How can we hold one another accountable to this text? Pray for God’s grace as you walk in faith in his Word!

That’s it! We hope you’ll find that this deceptively simple approach will produce a fountain of insight and communion with God and with one another. Not only is this a great method for group discussion but it can transform your personal study as well. Also, this is an easily reproducible process, so you should have no trouble teaching other Christians this three-step approach.

Week 1 - Word

- Read 2 Timothy 3:15-17

- Observation (What do you see?):

- Read and re-read the text. What exactly is the text saying? Can you paraphrase it? (note, this is not asking, what do *you think about* the text, or the implications of the text or applications of the text. That comes later!).
- What are keywords or phrases in the text (or things that stand out)? What do those words mean? (If you don't know, look them up!) For example, what is the meaning of the phrase, "breathed out by God?" (in Greek, it's one word, *theopneustos*, lit. "God-breathed") or, what are the definitions and distinctions of "teaching," "reproof," "correction," and "training in righteousness"? What is the train of thought indicated by the logical word "that, or "so that" at the beginning of verse 17?
- Is there anything you don't understand? Is there context that might make understanding easier? (Look it up!)

- Interpretation (What does it mean?):

- What does this text mean? (What are the Scriptures? What are they for? What do they do?)
- **Read together: Isaiah 55:6-11, Hebrews 4:12, 1 Corinthians 1:18, and Psalm 19**
- How do these verses add to your interpretation? What do you learn from these texts (And 2 Timothy 3:15-17)? What do we learn about ourselves? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about the Gospel?

- Application (What do we do?):

- What do you like about these verses? Is there anything you don't like?
- **Read James 1:22** If these and the above verses are true, then what does that mean for us? How should we respond or act differently because these verses are true? In light of these verses, what do you feel like the Lord is telling you personally to do?
- Share amongst your group each of your different practices of engaging in daily scripture reading. What methods seem to help you be best able to read the bible faithfully, thoughtfully and fruitfully? Where do you need help with this?
- How can you help and hold one another accountable to respond in obedience to these texts?

- Prayer

- Share any prayer requests, confessions, thanksgivings, etc. and pray together.

Week 2 - Creator

- **Read Genesis 1:1-1:25**
- **Observation (What do you see?):**
 - What exactly is the text saying? (note, this is not asking, what do *you think about* the text, or the implications of the text or applications of the text. That comes later!).
 - What are keywords or phrases in the text (or things that stand out)? What do those words mean? (If you don't know, look them up!)
 - Do you notice any words or phrases that are repeated? Repetition is a means of calling something to attention. What seems so significant about the things that are repeated? (For instance, how many times is the verb "said" used? Who is doing the "saying"? What is being "said" and what happens when something is "said"?)
 - Is there anything you don't understand? Is there context that might make understanding easier? (Look it up!)
- **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**
 - What does this text mean? (What does it mean that when God says something, it comes into existence? What does it mean that God alone existed before the creation of all things? What does "it was good" mean about the state of creation?)
 - **Read together: Acts 17:24-31, Revelation 4:11, Colossians 1:16-20 (speaking of Jesus), and Psalm 104**
 - How do these verses add to your interpretation? What do we learn from these texts (And Genesis 1:1-1:25)? What do we learn about ourselves? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about the Gospel?
- **Application (What do we do?):**
 - What do you like about these verses? Is there anything you don't like?
 - If these verses are true, then what does that mean for us? How should we respond or act differently because these verses are true? (Look closely at Revelation 4:11) In light of these verses, what do you feel like the Lord is telling you personally to do?
 - What does "Glory" mean? How does God's role as creator warrant him Glory? How do we glorify God? Are there ways where God is not receiving the Glory in your life that he rightly deserves as the one who created all things?
 - How can you help and hold one another accountable to respond in obedience to these texts?
- **Pray Together**

Week 3 - Humanity

- **Read Genesis 1:26-31**
- **Observation (What do you see?):**
 - What exactly is the text saying? (note, this is not asking, what do *you think about* the text, or the implications of the text or applications of the text. That comes later!).
 - What are keywords or phrases in the text (or things that stand out)? What do those words mean? (If you don't know, look them up!)
 - Is there anything you don't understand? Is there context that might make understanding easier? (Look it up!)
- **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**
 - What does this text mean? (What does it mean to be made in the "image" of God? What does God want his Image to do? Why would he want his image to do that?)
 - **Read together: Psalm 8, Isaiah 43:7, Genesis 2:15-25,**
 - **Read Colossians 1:16-20, 3:9-10, Romans 8:29, 2 Corinthians 3:18 (note the use of the word "image")**
 - How do these verses add to your interpretation? What do you learn from these texts (And Genesis 1:26-31)? What do we learn about ourselves? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about the Gospel?
- **Application (What do we do?):**
 - What do you like about these verses? Is there anything you don't like?
 - If these verses are true, then what does that mean for us? How should we respond or act differently because these verses are true? In light of these verses, what do you feel like the Lord is telling you personally to do?
 - Sin distorts (but does not erase) our image-bearing qualities, why is this significant? In light of Romans 8:29 and 2 Corinthians 3:18, what is God's plan for those who behold his glory? How will he do this? Why is this significant for your life right now?
 - How can you help and hold one another accountable to respond in obedience to these texts?
- **Prayer**
 - Share any prayer requests, confessions, thanksgivings, etc. and pray together.

Week 4 - Sin

- **Read Genesis 3**
- **Observation (What do you see?):**
 - Read and re-read the text. What exactly is the text saying? Can you paraphrase it?
 - What are keywords, phrases, or instances in the text? Compare Genesis 3:2-3 with Genesis 2:16-17. What is the same? What is different?
 - Is there anything you don't understand? Is there context that might make understanding easier? (Look it up!)
- **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**
 - What does this text mean?
 - **Read together: Romans 5:12, Romans 3:23-24, and 6:23, Ephesians 2:1-10 Psalm 51**
 - How do these verses add to your interpretation? What do you learn from these texts (And Genesis 3)? The Hebrew word translated "sin" in Psalm 51 is *chata* and it has a connotation of "missing a mark or falling short of a goal." How does this add light to Romans 3:23? What do we learn about ourselves? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about the Gospel?
- **Application (What do we do?):**
 - What do you like about these verses? Is there anything you don't like?
 - **Read together: 1 John 1:5-10 and 3:1-10**
 - If these (and the above) verses are true, then what does that mean for us? How should we respond or act differently because these verses are true? In light of these verses, what do you feel like the Lord is telling you personally to do?
 - Are there ways that you are "making a practice of sinning"? How can you help and hold one another accountable to respond in obedience to these texts and what you've discussed today?

Note: Confessing our sins to one another is a vital part of the Christian faith, not because it works forgiveness of sins in and of itself, but because it helps us walk more fully in the truth we believe—that Jesus has taken ALL of a believer's sins from him or her and put them to death along with himself on the cross. "Satan" is a Hebrew word that means accuser; the devil will try to lie to you just as he lied to Eve and tell you that your confession will lead to guilt, rejection, a loss of power or prestige, even harm, or that God will not or cannot forgive you and condemn you for your sins. But we know that Jesus has triumphed for us over every sin (even the one's you're most ashamed of) and it no longer has any power over us and as Romans 8:1 says "there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus," therefore the Christian can confess their sins as "dead works" with no guilt or shame attached and glory in the Gospel of Christ Jesus who has forgiven us of our sins and cleansed us from all unrighteousness.

- **Pray Together**

Week 5 - Jesus

- **Read Philippians 2:5-11**
- **Observation (What do you see?):**
 - Read and re-read the text. What exactly is the text saying? Can you paraphrase it? (remember! only discuss what you see, not what you think, that comes later).
 - What are keywords, phrases, or instances in the text (or things that stand out)? What do those words mean? (If you don't know, look them up!) (For instance, the word translated "emptied" ESV or "made himself nothing" NIV)
 - Is there anything you don't understand? Is there context that might make understanding easier? (Look it up!)
- **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**
 - What does this text mean?
 - **Read together: Hebrews 2:14-15, 4:15, Matthew 27:27-50, 28:1-10, Psalm 22**
 - Psalm 22 was written nearly 1000 years before the birth of Jesus to prophecy about the death of Christ. What parallels do you see between this psalm and the crucifixion account?
 - How do these verses add to your interpretation? What do you learn from these texts (And Philippians 2:5-11)? What do we learn about ourselves? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about the Gospel?
- **Application (What do we do?):**
 - What do you like about these verses? Is there anything you don't like?
 - **Read together Philippians 2:1-5**
 - If these (and the above) verses are true, then what does that mean for us? How should we respond or act differently because these verses are true? In light of these verses, what do you feel like the Lord is telling you personally to do?
 - How can you help and hold one another accountable to respond in obedience to these texts and what you've discussed today?
- **Prayer**
 - Share any prayer requests, confessions, thanksgivings, etc. and pray together.

Week 6 – Holy Spirit

- Read John 16-5-24

- Observation (What do you see?):

- Read and re-read the text. What exactly is the text saying? Can you paraphrase it? (remember! only discuss what you see, not what you think, that comes later).
- What are keywords, phrases, or instances in the text (or things that stand out)? What do those words mean? (If you don't know, look them up!)
- Is there anything you don't understand? Is there context that might make understanding easier? (Look it up!)

- Interpretation (What does it mean?):

- What does this text mean?
- **Read together: John 3:1-9, John 14:15-26, Acts 1:8, 2:1-11, Galatians 5:16-25, 1 Thessalonians 5:19 and Psalm 118**
- How do these verses add to your interpretation? What do you learn from these texts (And John 16:5-24)? What do we learn about ourselves? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about the Gospel?

- Application (What do we do?):

- What do you like about these verses? Is there anything you don't like?
- If these verses are true, then what does that mean for us? How should we respond or act differently because these verses are true? In light of these verses, what do you feel like the Lord is telling you personally to do?
- How can you help and hold one another accountable to respond in obedience to these texts and what you've discussed today?

- Prayer

- Share any prayer requests, confessions, thanksgivings, etc. and pray together.

Week 7 - Worship

- **Read Romans 1:18-2:1**
- **Observation (What do you see?):**
 - Read and re-read the text. What exactly is the text saying? Can you paraphrase it? (remember! only discuss what you see, not what you think, that comes later).
 - What are keywords, phrases, or instances in the text (or things that stand out)? What do those words mean? (If you don't know, look them up!) (For example, what is the meaning and etymology of the English word "Worship"? A quick google search should tell you)
 - Is there anything you don't understand? Is there context that might make understanding easier? (Look it up!)
- **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**
 - What does this text mean?
 - **Read together: Jeremiah 2:13, Psalm 29:1-2, John 4:23-24, 17:17, and Psalm 34**
 - How do these verses add to your interpretation? What do you learn from these texts (And Romans 1:18-21)? What do we learn about ourselves? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about the Gospel?
- **Application (What do we do?):**
 - What do you like about these verses? Is there anything you don't like?
 - If these verses are true, then what does that mean for us? How should we respond or act differently because these verses are true? In light of these verses, what do you feel like the Lord is telling you personally to do?
 - How can you help and hold one another accountable to respond in obedience to these texts and what you've discussed today?
- **Prayer**
 - Share any prayer requests, confessions, thanksgivings, etc. and pray together.

Week 8 - Evangelism

- **Read Romans 10:9-17**

- **Observation (What do you see?):**
 - Read and re-read the text. What exactly is the text saying? Can you paraphrase it? (remember! only discuss what you see, not what you think, that comes later).
 - What are keywords, phrases, or instances in the text (or things that stand out)? What do those words mean? (If you don't know, look them up!)
 - Is there anything you don't understand? Is there context that might make understanding easier? (Look it up!)

- **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**
 - What does this text mean?
 - **Read together: Matthew 28:18-20, 1 Peter 3:14-15, 2 Cor. 5:17-21, and Psalm 40**
 - How do these verses add to your interpretation? What do you learn from these texts (And Romans 10:9-17)? What do we learn about ourselves? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about the Gospel?

- **Application (What do we do?):**
 - What do you like about these verses? Is there anything you don't like?
 - If these verses are true, then what does that mean for us? How should we respond or act differently because these verses are true? In light of these verses, what do you feel like the Lord is telling you personally to do?
 - How can you help and hold one another accountable to respond in obedience to these texts and what you've discussed today?

- **Prayer**
 - Share any prayer requests, confessions, thanksgivings, etc. and pray together.

Week 9 - Community

- Read Ephesians 4

- Observation (What do you see?):

- Read and re-read the text. What exactly is the text saying? Can you paraphrase it? (remember! only discuss what you see, not what you think, that comes later).
- What are keywords, phrases, or instances in the text (or things that stand out)? What do those words mean? (If you don't know, look them up!)
- Is there anything you don't understand? Is there context that might make understanding easier? (Look it up!)

- Interpretation (What does it mean?):

- What does this text mean?
- **Read together: Colossians 3:12-17, Romans 12:9-21, and Psalm 133**
- How do these verses add to your interpretation? What do you learn from these texts (And Ephesians 4)? What do we learn about ourselves? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about the Gospel?

- Application (What do we do?):

- What do you like about these verses? Is there anything you don't like?
- If these verses are true, then what does that mean for us? How should we respond or act differently because these verses are true? In light of these verses, what do you feel like the Lord is telling you personally to do?
- How can you help and hold one another accountable to respond in obedience to these texts and what you've discussed today?

- Prayer

- Share any prayer requests, confessions, thanksgivings, etc. and pray together.

Week 10 - Service

- **Read Romans 12:1-8**
- **Observation (What do you see?):**
 - Read and re-read the text. What exactly is the text saying? Can you paraphrase it? (remember! only discuss what you see, not what you think, that comes later).
 - What are keywords, phrases, or instances in the text (or things that stand out)? What do those words mean? (If you don't know, look them up!) (For instance, look up the meaning of "Spiritual Worship" ESV or "True and Proper Worship" NIV which is also translated as "Reasonable Service" by the KJV)
 - Is there anything you don't understand? Is there context that might make understanding easier? (Look it up!)
- **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**
 - What does this text mean?
 - **Read together: Ephesians 4:11-13, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 and Psalm 50**
 - How do these verses add to your interpretation? What do you learn from these texts (And Romans 12:1-8)? What do we learn about ourselves? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about the Gospel?
- **Application (What do we do?):**
 - What do you like about these verses? Is there anything you don't like?
 - If these verses are true, then what does that mean for us? How should we respond or act differently because these verses are true? In light of these verses, what do you feel like the Lord is telling you personally to do?
 - How can you help and hold one another accountable to respond in obedience to these texts and what you've discussed today?
- **Prayer**
 - Share any prayer requests, confessions, thanksgivings, etc. and pray together.

Week 11 – Disciple-Making

- **Read Matthew 28:18-20**
- **Observation (What do you see?):**
 - Read and re-read the text. What exactly is the text saying? Can you paraphrase it? (remember! only discuss what you see, not what you think, that comes later).
 - What are keywords, phrases, or instances in the text (or things that stand out)? What do those words mean? (If you don't know, look them up!)
 - What is the main verb in Matthew 28:19?
 - Is there anything you don't understand? Is there context that might make understanding easier? (Look it up!)
- **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**
 - What does this text mean?
 - **Read together: Deuteronomy 6:4-7, Hebrews 10:23-25, 2 Timothy 2:1-2, 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12 and Psalm 78**
 - How do these verses add to your interpretation? What do you learn from these texts (And Matthew 28:18-20)? What do we learn about ourselves? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about the Gospel?
- **Application (What do we do?):**
 - What do you like about these verses? Is there anything you don't like?
 - If these verses are true, then what does that mean for us? How should we respond or act differently because these verses are true? In light of these verses, what do you feel like the Lord is telling you personally to do?
 - How can you help and hold one another accountable to respond in obedience to these texts and what you've discussed today?
- **Prayer**
 - Share any prayer requests, confessions, thanksgivings, etc. and pray together.

Week 12 – Last Things

- Read Revelation 21:1-8

- Observation (What do you see?):

- Read and re-read the text. What exactly is the text saying? Can you paraphrase it? (remember! only discuss what you see, not what you think, that comes later).
- What are keywords, phrases, or instances in the text (or things that stand out)? What do those words mean? (If you don't know, look them up!)
- Is there anything you don't understand? Is there context that might make understanding easier? (Look it up!)

- Interpretation (What does it mean?):

- What does this text mean?
- **Read together: Philippians 3:20-21, 1 Corinthians 15:12-22, 35-49, Romans 8:18-25, and Psalm 8**
- How do these verses add to your interpretation? What do you learn from these texts (And Revelation 21:1-8)? What do we learn about ourselves? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about the Gospel?

- Application (What do we do?):

- What do you like about these verses? Is there anything you don't like?
- **Read together 2 Peter 3:11-13**
- If these (and the above) verses are true, then what does that mean for us? How should we respond or act differently because these verses are true? In light of these verses, what do you feel like the Lord is telling you personally to do?
- How can you help and hold one another accountable to respond in obedience to these texts and what you've discussed today?

- Prayer

- Share any prayer requests, confessions, thanksgivings, etc. and pray together.

