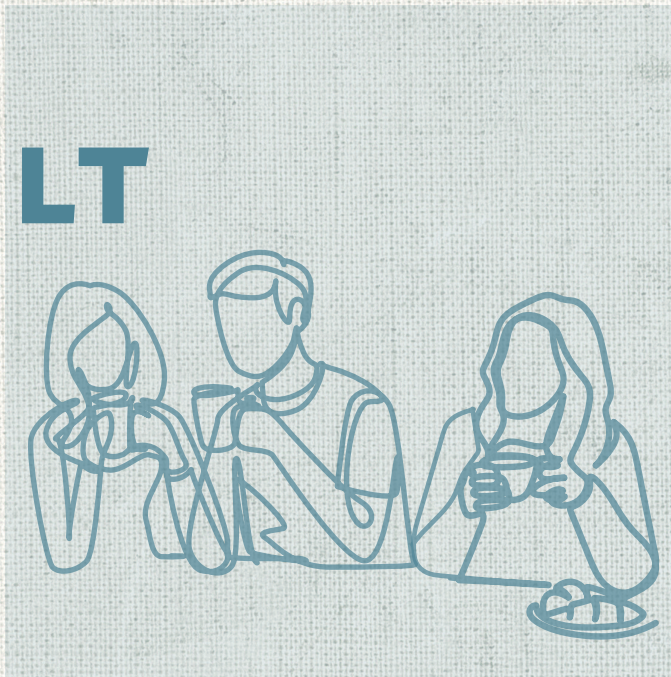


# ADULT



SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2026

## TEACHING GUIDE & RESOURCES

BACK TO BASICS

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS

SEP-OCT 2026

# ADULT TEACHING GUIDE & RESOURCES

Volume 23 • Number 1

ISSN 1946-7648

**Curriculum Director:** Katie Greenwood

**Editor:** David Jones

**Design Manager:** Andrea Young

**Design:** Christian Headden

**Executive Director & CEO:** Ron Hunter Jr., Ph.D.

*Adult Teaching Guide & Resources* is published bi-monthly by

D6 Family Ministry, 114 Bush Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37217.

Board Members: Rick Taylor, Chair; Timothy York, Vice Chair; Kendall Ross, Clerk;  
Jay Baines; Kevin Barnett; Paul Bryant; Darin Gibbs; Ryan Giles; Mark Price

Copyright 2026 D6 Family Ministry,

114 Bush Road Nashville, Tennessee 37217

All Rights Reserved. No reproduction permitted  
without permission under penalty of law.

**[D6family.com](http://D6family.com)**

Send your correspondence to:

Adult / D6 Family Ministry, 114 Bush Road, Nashville, TN 37217

1-800-877-7030

## **ORDER INFORMATION**

To order products mentioned in this publication,  
please call **1-800-877-7030**.

Notice: By submitting letters, testimonies, and other materials to D6 Family Ministry, you agree all submissions are the property of D6 Family Ministry, and you agree that D6 Family Ministry has been granted the non-exclusive right to use and/or reproduce any submission in any manner and for any purpose.



**D6** Curriculum

# Table of Contents

ADULT TEACHING GUIDE

## SEPTEMBER

|                                                                      |           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| LESSON 1   SEPTEMBER 6, 2026                                         |           |
| <b>The Foundation of Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20–21)</b> | <b>5</b>  |
| LESSON 2   SEPTEMBER 13, 2026                                        |           |
| <b>How Did We Get the Bible? (Psalm 119:89; Acts 2:6–8)</b>          | <b>13</b> |
| LESSON 3   SEPTEMBER 20, 2026                                        |           |
| <b>Who Is God? (Genesis 1:1; Romans 1:19–20)</b>                     | <b>21</b> |
| LESSON 4   SEPTEMBER 27, 2026                                        |           |
| <b>Who Is Jesus? (Matthew 27:45–28:10)</b>                           | <b>29</b> |

## OCTOBER

|                                                             |           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| LESSON 5   OCTOBER 4, 2026                                  |           |
| <b>Who Is the Holy Spirit? (John 14:16–26; Acts 2:1–4)</b>  | <b>37</b> |
| LESSON 6   OCTOBER 11, 2026                                 |           |
| <b>What Is Discipleship? (Mark 1:14–20)</b>                 | <b>45</b> |
| LESSON 7   OCTOBER 18, 2026                                 |           |
| <b>What Good Is Christianity? (John 14:6; Luke 6:43–44)</b> | <b>53</b> |
| LESSON 8   OCTOBER 25, 2026                                 |           |
| <b>How to Study and Live Out the Bible (Psalm 119:1–42)</b> | <b>61</b> |

---

# WELCOME TO THE D6<sup>®</sup> Adult Teaching Guide

Thank you for discipling others to grow in God's Word. Discipleship is strongest when the **church and home work together**.

## HOW D6 CURRICULUM WORKS

Each lesson follows a simple, consistent flow to help you guide your group with confidence. Lessons give learners a broad understanding of Scripture and key biblical truths over time.

Elementary and teen students—and preschoolers when possible—study the same family themes as their parents and grandparents, creating natural opportunities for **faith conversations throughout the week**. As a teacher, you have the opportunity to help connect biblical truth from the classroom to everyday life and encourage ongoing discipleship beyond Sunday.

### EACH LESSON INCLUDES THREE SIMPLE ELEMENTS:

#### Connect

Begin with an activity or discussion that introduces the lesson and engages your group.

#### Teaching the Truth

Walk through the main content of the lesson, built around key **Big Ideas** from Scripture that serve as anchor points for each lesson. **Live It Out** and **Discuss Together** provide discussion questions to help your group process and apply what they are learning in real time. Do not feel you have to teach all sections if your group gets focused on one.

#### Respond

Encourage learners to take a practical step beyond the lesson.

## WHAT'S IN EACH LESSON

### Gospel Connection

Highlights the gospel and the larger story of Scripture.

### Leader Lens (for you)

Lesson-specific guidance and encouragement to help you teach with clarity and confidence.

### Apologetics

Addresses commonly asked questions to help believers understand, defend, and apply biblical truth in today's culture. Use while teaching or throughout the week.

### Go Deeper (select lessons)

Additional insight to better understand the passage, including cultural background, historical context, and theological meaning.

### D6 Principle (at home)

Reinforces ways to help parents and families grow in faith together throughout the week. Share in class, through email or text, or alongside the weekly *As You Go* handout.

This guide is designed to **support you, not overwhelm you**. Use the elements that will best help your group engage with and apply God's Word.

## TEACHING RESOURCES

Additional resources are available each week to help you prepare and teach with confidence. These include **PowerPoint slides**, the **Adult Teaching Outline**, **Adult Member Outline**, **As You Go handout**, and other downloadable teaching helps.

A digital version of the Teaching Guide is also available and includes **live hyperlinks** to websites and Scripture passages for easier preparation and teaching. To access these resources, scan the QR code or visit: **d6.family/6939**

## D6 DISCIPLESHIP JOURNALS

The D6 Adult Teaching Guide is designed to work alongside the **D6 Discipleship Journals**, helping learners continue growing throughout the week and in your classroom. They are called “discipleship journals” because they include daily devotions, articles, apologetics, and notetaking pages for lessons and sermons, along with practical content that reinforces the biblical truths and family themes taught in each lesson.

D6 offers journals for different stages of life, including **The Brink** (young adults) and **Fusion Generations** (adults). Elementary and teen students study the same devotional Scripture passages as their parents and grandparents throughout the week, creating natural

opportunities for deeper faith conversations between adults and kids, even beyond family connections.

Encourage learners to engage God’s Word throughout the week through the use of the *Discipleship Journals*.



Scan to access handouts  
and digital materials or  
visit **d6.family/6939**

---

## TIPS FOR LEADING YOUR GROUP

- **FOCUS ON CLARITY**, not covering everything. Some lessons will include more material than you can cover in your available time. Focus on the Big Ideas and discussion that will best help your group grow spiritually.
- **BEGIN PREPARING EARLIER IN THE WEEK** when possible. Thoughtful preparation gives you time to pray, reflect on the lesson, and allow the Holy Spirit to guide your teaching.
- **ALLOW TIME FOR DISCUSSION**, not just teaching.
- **USE A VARIETY OF TEACHING METHODS** to engage your group. Discussion, visuals, object lessons, stories, and current events can help learners actively participate.
- **ASK FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS** to deepen conversation.
- **CREATE A SPACE** where people feel comfortable sharing.
- While curriculum is a valuable tool, **TRUE SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION** ultimately depends on the work of the Holy Spirit and the ongoing partnership of the church and home.

## ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

### D6 Family App

Provides free resources designed to encourage generational discipleship and help families grow in faith together.

### D6 Teacher Facebook Group

A place for D6 curriculum users to share ideas, ask questions, and encourage one another in ministry: [facebook.com/groups/D6CurriculumTeachers](https://facebook.com/groups/D6CurriculumTeachers)

---

LESSON 1  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

FAMILY THEME

# The Foundation of Scripture

## LESSON AIM

Understand that the Bible is the inspired, inerrant, authoritative Word of God, which serves as the only trustworthy rule of faith and practice for the Christian.

## STUDY TEXT

[2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20–21](#)



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)



## BIG IDEAS

1. **Scripture Claims to Be the Word of God** ([Hebrews 1:1](#); [Deuteronomy 4:2](#); [Proverbs 30:5–6](#))
2. **Scripture Is Breathed Out by God** ([2 Timothy 3:16](#); [1 Thessalonians 2:13](#))
3. **The Holy Spirit Guided the Writing of Scripture** ([2 Peter 1:20–21](#))

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Hebrews 4:12**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance.  
Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.



AH 1-1



AH 1-2



AH 1-3

## Leader Lens

Along with growing Bible illiteracy, there is an even more dangerous movement that identifies as Christian but rejects the historic view of Scripture as the trustworthy, authoritative Word of God. Protect your group from this false teaching by strengthening their understanding of what the Bible teaches and building confidence in the reliability of Scripture.

## Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

**VIDEO:** Show this video in which Greg Koukl explains that many people develop confidence in the reliability and authority of Scripture through their encounters with the teachings of Jesus ([tinyurl.com/D6Taking](https://tinyurl.com/D6Taking)). After the video, discuss its message and say, *Today we will examine the foundation of Scripture and see why the Bible is a trustworthy source.*

**CONVERSATION STARTER:** Ask your group: *What is the difference between saying, “Everything in the Bible is true” and “Everything the Bible affirms is true”?* Explain that Scripture sometimes records false statements accurately as part of historical events or conversations. For example, the Bible records statements like “There is no God” ([Psalm 10:4](#); [14:1](#); [53:1](#)), but it presents those words as false claims made by the wicked. After discussion, say, *Today we will examine the foundation of Scripture and see why we can trust the Bible as a reliable source.*

**CULTURAL MOMENT:** The American Bible Society’s *State of the Bible* research shows that Bible engagement directly correlates with human flourishing. People who read, study, or listen to the Bible four or more times each week rate significantly higher in factors related to human flourishing. Use [sotb.americanbible.org](https://sotb.americanbible.org) to share some of this information with your group. See [tinyurl.com/LWFlourish](https://tinyurl.com/LWFlourish) for additional information. After discussion, say, *The Bible is more than just a historical book. It can literally change our lives. Today we will examine the foundation of Scripture and see why we can trust the Bible as a reliable source.*

## Teaching the Truth

Distribute the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 1-2) and consider displaying the AH 1-3 (*The Bible*) poster.

### Gospel Connection

This lesson affirms the Bible as the inspired, inerrant, authoritative Word of God. Through Scripture, God reveals humanity’s need for salvation and His plan of redemption through Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit guided the writing of Scripture so people in every generation could know the truth about Christ and respond to the gospel by grace through faith.

The Bible is much more than just the collected wisdom of the ages and the stories of man’s effort to learn about God. Scripture is God’s revelation of Himself and His instruction to us about how to have a relationship with Him.

## ✧ BIG IDEA 1 ✧

### Scripture Claims to Be the Word of God

[Hebrews 1:1](#); [Deuteronomy 4:2](#); [Proverbs 30:5–6](#)

“In the beginning, God . . .” This opening phrase identifies God as the source of all things. As God spoke, creation responded, demonstrating the power and authority of His Word. The phrase “Word of God” can carry several meanings in Scripture. It might refer to God’s spoken words at Creation, His revelation through the prophets, or ultimately to Jesus Himself, whom John described as the “Word made flesh” ([John 1:1, 14](#)). The Word of God also refers to the collection of Scriptures we hold as the Bible. Every expression of God’s Word carries authority because it comes from God.

Scripture consistently claims a divine source. Hebrews explains that God communicated with His people through the prophets in many different ways throughout history (**Hebrews 1:1**). Throughout Scripture, repeated phrases identify God as the source of prophetic announcements, revelation, commandments, and instruction. Expressions such as “Thus says the LORD,” “The LORD said,” and “the word of the LORD” appear hundreds of times throughout Scripture. The Bible repeatedly presents itself not merely as human reflection on God, but as God’s revelation to humanity. Because of this, Scripture also warns against adding to or taking away from God’s Word ([Deuteronomy 4:2](#); [12:32](#); [Proverbs 30:5–6](#); [Revelation 22:18–19](#)).

The Bible’s claim to be the Word of God is ultimately self-attesting, though that claim can still be examined thoughtfully. Moses, the prophets, and the apostles all identified God as the source of Scripture, and Jesus Himself affirmed its divine authority. When Satan tempted Jesus to turn stones into bread, Jesus responded by quoting Deuteronomy, explaining that people do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from God ([Matthew 4:4](#); [Deuteronomy 8:3](#)). By responding this way, Jesus not only resisted temptation but also affirmed that Scripture came from the very mouth of God, even though Moses physically recorded the words.

**Live It Out:** Recognize Scripture as God’s Word and intentionally prioritize it in your daily decisions this week.

#### Discuss Together:

- *What makes the Bible different from every other book ever written? Why does it matter whether the Bible truly comes from God?*
- *What voices or influences compete with Scripture for authority in people’s lives today?*

Discussion questions are included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 1-1) and PowerPoint 1 (editable).



PowerPoint 1

### Apologetics

External evidence supports the reliability of Scripture. Thousands of ancient manuscripts and early translations demonstrate the careful preservation of the biblical text across centuries. Archaeology has repeatedly confirmed historical details recorded in Scripture, sometimes long after the Bible first documented them. Non-biblical historians such as Josephus, Tacitus, and Pliny the Younger referenced people, events, and places connected to the biblical record. In addition, Scripture contains detailed prophecies fulfilled centuries later, including prophecies about Babylon, Cyrus, and Tyre ([Isaiah 13:19–22](#); [44:28](#); [Ezekiel 26:3–14](#)). Together, these evidences strengthen confidence in the trustworthiness of the Bible.

Jesus repeatedly treated Scripture as the authoritative Word of God. He challenged the Pharisees for elevating tradition above God's commands ([Matthew 15:3-6](#)). When discussing marriage and divorce, Jesus introduced [Genesis 2:24](#) by referring to what God Himself said through Scripture ([Matthew 19:4-5](#)). Despite their antagonism toward Him, the Pharisees recognized the divine authority behind the quotation from Genesis. In His debate with the Sadducees about the Resurrection, Jesus reminded them that Scripture itself was God speaking to them ([Matthew 22:31](#)). Throughout the Gospels, Jesus consistently affirmed the writings of Moses, the Psalms, and the prophets as the authoritative Word of God.

Some challenge the reliability of the Gospel accounts, yet the historical evidence supporting the New Testament is stronger than that of any other work from the ancient world. If the Gospel records are not sufficient to pass the test of credibility, then nothing else from the ancient world could meet the standard. The number of surviving manuscripts and the early dating of many New Testament sources provide strong support for the credibility and preservation of the biblical record.

Every worldview ultimately rests on some form of final authority. Christians recognize Scripture as the trustworthy and authoritative Word of God because God Himself is the highest authority to whom no greater appeal can be made. Hebrews points to God's promise to Abraham as an example: since there was no one greater by whom God could swear, He swore by Himself ([Hebrews 6:13](#)). Historic Christianity has consistently affirmed the Bible as the divinely sourced, trustworthy, and authoritative Word of God. Any view that diminishes the authority of Scripture will eventually affect other areas of doctrine as well.

**Live It Out:** Identify one area of life where you need to submit more fully to the authority of Scripture.

**Discuss Together:**

- *What evidence or truth most strengthens your confidence that the Bible is the Word of God?*
- *How does Jesus' view of Scripture shape the way Christians should approach the Bible today?*

✱ **BIG IDEA 2** ✱

**Scripture Is Breathed Out by God**  
[2 Timothy 3:16; 1 Thessalonians 2:13](#)

The apostle Paul affirmed the divine source of Scripture when he wrote that all Scripture is breathed out by God and useful for teaching, correction, and

training in righteousness (**2 Timothy 3:16**). Paul combined the word for God (*Theo*) with the word for breath (*pneustos*) to form a new word that literally means “God-breathed.” This term is commonly translated as *inspired*. This verse serves as one of the clearest biblical foundations for the doctrine of inspiration.

Understanding the phrase “God-breathed” helps clarify the doctrine of inspiration. Although the word *inspired* is commonly used, the emphasis of **2 Timothy 3:16** is not that the writers breathed something into Scripture, but that Scripture came from God Himself. The focus is ultimately on the divine source of the words rather than on the human authors. God spoke through prophets and apostles while working through their personalities, backgrounds, and writing styles. Because Scripture comes from God, it carries authority for belief, correction, and righteous living. For this reason, Scripture has often been described as the Christian’s “only rule of faith and practice.”

Paul also commended the Thessalonian believers for recognizing that the message they received from the apostles was truly the Word of God and not merely human teaching (**1 Thessalonians 2:13**). Paul understood himself to be a messenger delivering God’s truth, not simply sharing personal opinions. The authority of Scripture ultimately rests not in the wisdom of human authors, but in the God who revealed His truth through them.

The process of *inspiration*, or God’s “breathing out,” does not mean He simply dictated every word of the Bible. At times, prophets recorded direct words from God ([Exodus 34:27–28](#); [Jeremiah 36:2–4](#); [Ezekiel 3:26–27](#)), but much of Scripture also includes the personal testimony, historical research, and written accounts of authors God chose to communicate His truth ([Psalm 45:1](#); [Luke 1:1–3](#); [Acts 1:1–2](#); [1 Corinthians 7:25, 40](#)). Moses wrote with the precision of a lawgiver, poets expressed worship and wisdom through song, historians carefully documented God’s work among His people, and apostles explained the gospel with clarity and conviction. Though the personalities of the writers are evident throughout Scripture, the message ultimately reflects its divine Author.

**Live It Out:** Recognize that Scripture comes from God and approach His Word with greater trust, reverence, and obedience this week.

**Discuss Together:**

- *What does it mean that Scripture is “God-breathed”?*
- *Why is it important that God worked through human authors while guiding the writing of Scripture?*
- *How does understanding Scripture’s divine source affect the way believers should approach the Bible?*
- *What dangers arise when people treat Scripture as merely human opinion?*

**D6**

**Principle**

Generational discipleship involves sharing the faith with others within your sphere of influence. Paul’s relationship with the Thessalonians created opportunities to teach, encourage, and strengthen them in God’s Word.

## ✧ BIG IDEA 3 ✧

### The Holy Spirit Guided the Writing of Scripture

#### 2 Peter 1:20–21

The Holy Spirit *superintended* the writing of Scripture, meaning He actively oversaw and directed the biblical authors to communicate exactly what God intended through their personalities, experiences, and circumstances. Peter explained that prophecy did not originate from human initiative or personal interpretation. Instead, men spoke from God as they were guided by the Holy Spirit (**2 Peter 1:20–21**). Although Scripture does not fully explain how inspiration occurred, the result gives believers confidence in the reliability and authority of Scripture. The Holy Spirit directed the process so God’s message would be communicated truthfully and faithfully. Because of this, believers can trust the truthfulness and authority of Scripture.

The New Testament writers repeatedly recognized the Holy Spirit as the true source behind Scripture. Peter connected David’s writings to the resurrection of Christ and the coming of the Holy Spirit ([Acts 2:30–33](#)). Other passages explain that the Holy Spirit spoke through David and the prophets as God revealed His truth to His people ([Acts 4:25–26](#); [Hebrews 3:7](#)). Throughout Scripture, human authors wrote within their own historical settings and writing styles, yet God faithfully guided the message He intended to communicate.

Fulfilled prophecy also demonstrates the Holy Spirit’s involvement in Scripture. Long before Jesus’ birth, the Old Testament foretold details about His life, ministry, suffering, and death. Scripture predicted that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem ([Micah 5:2](#)), descend from David’s family line ([2 Samuel 7:12–13](#)), be betrayed for thirty pieces of silver ([Zechariah 11:12–13](#)), suffer rejection and piercing ([Psalm 22:16](#); [Isaiah 53:3–7](#)), and much more. Jesus fulfilled hundreds of prophetic details, including events He could not have arranged by natural means.

**Live It Out:** Spend time this week reading Scripture with confidence that the Holy Spirit faithfully revealed God’s truth.

#### **Discuss Together:**

- *Why does fulfilled prophecy strengthen confidence in the truthfulness of Scripture?*
- *How does understanding the Holy Spirit’s role in Scripture affect the way believers read the Bible?*

As the inspired, inerrant Word of God, Scripture is trustworthy and authoritative. Since Scripture is the Word of God, it reflects the character of God—it is true ([Psalm 119:160](#); [John 17:17](#)), unchanging ([Psalm 119:89](#); [Isaiah 40:8](#); [Matthew](#)



AH1-4

### Go Deeper

The prophecies in Daniel about future kingdoms are so detailed that some critics argue the book must have been written after those events occurred. Yet both Jewish tradition and the teachings of Jesus affirm Daniel as genuine prophecy written centuries beforehand. The rise and fall of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome demonstrate God’s sovereign knowledge of history and strengthen confidence in the trustworthiness of Scripture. To read more about this, see AH 1-4 (*Prophecies in Daniel*).

[24:35; 1 Peter 1:24–25](#)), and trustworthy ([Psalm 19:7; 119:86, 137; 2 Peter 1:19](#)). The psalmist recognized it was dependable for guiding daily life ([Psalm 119:105](#)). Jesus taught that building one's life on His words is like building a house on a solid foundation that can withstand life's storms ([Matthew 7:24–25](#)). Believers can trust Scripture because it reflects the truthfulness and character of God Himself.

A key aspect of Scripture's trustworthiness is the doctrine of inerrancy, which teaches that the Bible, as originally inspired by God, is without error in all that it affirms to be true. (Lesson 2 in this series will address the preservation and translation of Scripture.) This distinction matters because Scripture sometimes records false statements spoken by sinful people or Satan himself without affirming those statements as true. For example, Scripture accurately records Satan's deception in the garden ([Genesis 3:4–5](#)), the false accusations of Job's friends ([Job 42:7](#)), and Rabshakeh's arrogant boasts against God and King Hezekiah ([2 Kings 18:28–35](#)). These statements are recorded truthfully as part of the historical account, but Scripture does not present them as true or trustworthy. The Bible faithfully records both truth and error exactly as they occurred while consistently revealing God's truth.

**Live It Out:** Identify one area where you need to trust and follow Scripture more fully in your daily life.

**Discuss Together:**

- *How should confidence in the trustworthiness of Scripture affect the way believers live?*
- *Why does it matter that Christians believe the Bible is truthful in all that it affirms?*

## Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

**REFLECTION:** Challenge group members to consider how much care God invested in revealing and preserving His Word. If God valued communicating truth to us so deeply, how should we value, trust, and respond to Scripture? What does that look like in our daily lives?

**FAITH AT HOME:** Encourage group members to establish habits of Scripture reading and discussion at home. *D6 Discipleship Journals* provide a practical way for families to study the same passages together, discuss biblical truth, and reinforce discipleship throughout the week.

## Apologetics

Critics sometimes claim the Bible contains errors because it does not always follow modern standards of technical precision. Yet Scripture often uses everyday language, summaries, approximations, poetry, and observational descriptions while still communicating truth faithfully. The Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy (1978) remains one of the clearest modern summaries explaining why Christians believe Scripture is fully trustworthy and without error in all that it affirms. To read the statement, visit [defendinginerrancy.com/chicago-statements](http://defendinginerrancy.com/chicago-statements).

## D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

## Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.



### AYG-1

*As You Go* (AYG-1) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *As You Go* is also available for FREE download at [D6curriculum.com/bonus](https://d6curriculum.com/bonus). (No password required.)

**TRUTH IN ACTION:** Encourage group members to identify one thought, attitude, behavior, or habit of theirs that does not align with the teaching of Scripture. Challenge them to ask God to help them bring that area under the authority of His Word and take one practical step toward obedience this week. Remind learners that Scripture was not given merely to increase knowledge, but to shape the way believers think, live, and respond to others.

## Notes:



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)

FAMILY THEME

# How Did We Get the Bible?

LESSON AIM

Understand that God has faithfully preserved and communicated His Word so people can know, trust, and follow Him.

STUDY TEXT

[Psalm 119:89; Acts 2:6–8](#)



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)



## BIG IDEAS

1. The People of God Treasure the Word of God ([Job 23:11–12](#))
2. God Has Assured Us His Word Will Endure ([Psalm 119:89; Isaiah 40:8; Mark 13:31](#))
3. God Communicates His Word in the Language of the People ([Mark 15:34–35; Acts 2:6–8](#))

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Hebrews 4:12**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance. Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.



AH 2-1



AH 2-2

## Leader Lens

This lesson includes history, apologetics, and manuscript evidence. Use these details to help your group develop confidence in Scripture and a greater appreciation for how God has preserved and communicated His Word throughout history.

## Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

**VIDEO:** Share this video of New Testament textual scholar Daniel Wallace addressing how we can trust the New Testament when the copies of manuscripts have differences: [tinyurl.com/D6Wallace](https://tinyurl.com/D6Wallace). Discuss the video with your group. Then say, *Today we will examine how we got the Bible and why we can trust it.*

**OBJECT LESSON:** Write this sentence in a small notebook: *The bewildered bookkeeper carefully compared the committee's complicated recommendation before approving the final copy.* Pass the notebook to another group member and ask them to copy the sentence onto the next page. Continue passing the notebook to several people in the group, allowing each person to compare their copy to the previous page for accuracy. After several copies have been made, compare the sentences and discuss whether any mistakes occurred. Then explain, *This process of copying and comparing manuscripts is much closer to how biblical manuscripts were preserved than the "Telephone Game," which critics sometimes use to describe the transmission of Scripture. Today we'll examine this deeper and see why we can trust the Bible.*

**CONVERSATION STARTER:** Ask group members to guess how much the following documents sold for:

- UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION – original first-printing copy \$43,200,000 (2021)
- CODEX SASSOON – 1,100-year-old Hebrew Bible manuscript \$38,126,000 (2023)
- CODEX LEICESTER – Leonardo da Vinci's scientific notebook \$30,802,500 (1994)

Then ask, *What makes these documents so valuable?* Conclude by saying, *Today we will examine a document so valuable that for thousands of years, people have dedicated their lives to copying it, studying it, and teaching it. In some cases, those efforts even cost people their lives.*

# Teaching the Truth

Distribute the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 2-2).

## Gospel Connection

This lesson highlights how God has faithfully preserved and communicated His Word so people from every generation and every nation can hear the gospel and respond to Jesus Christ in faith. Hearing and understanding God's Word is essential for salvation and spiritual growth ([Luke 8:11–15](#); [Romans 10:14–17](#)).

As with the inspiration of Scripture and spreading the message of the gospel, God has involved people in the preservation of His Word. It is an amazing testimony to the sovereignty and providence of God that He has entrusted fallible humans with a role in these most important endeavors and yet He has accomplished His purpose.

## ✧ BIG IDEA 1 ✧

### The People of God Treasure the Word of God

[Job 23:11–12](#)

Job probably lived before the time of Abraham, so he had no written Scripture, but he did have the oral traditions passed down from earlier generations (**Job 23:11–12**). Eventually, these traditions were written down under the guidance of the Holy Spirit ([2 Peter 1:21](#)). God's people collected the Scriptures as they were written. A copy of the Law of Moses was kept with the ark of the covenant ([Deuteronomy 31:25–26](#)). Joshua and the prophets continued the practice of writing and preserving the record of God's work among His people ([Joshua 24:26](#); [1 Samuel 10:25](#); [Isaiah 30:8](#); [Jeremiah 30:2](#)). Daniel, while exiled in Babylon, had access to significant portions of the Hebrew Scriptures in order to calculate the timeline of the 70-year exile ([Daniel 9:2](#)), cite the Law of Moses ([Daniel 9:13](#)), and echo themes from Solomon's prayer of dedication ([1 Kings 8:46–52](#); [Daniel 6:10](#); [9:4–19](#)). These examples demonstrate the value God's people placed on preserving and studying His Word.

Jesus referenced the three major sections of the Hebrew Scriptures—Law of Moses, Prophets, and Psalms (the Writings)—as including prophecy about Him ([Luke 24:44](#)). This demonstrates that the entire Old Testament had already been collected and was available for reading and study. Paul noted that Timothy had studied these “sacred writings” from childhood ([2 Timothy 3:15](#)) and encouraged the public reading and teaching of Scripture ([1 Timothy 4:13](#)). Both Jews and Christians recognized the Hebrew Scriptures as the

## Apologetics

The Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered between 1946 and 1956 in the Qumran caves, included copies or portions of every Old Testament book except Esther. These scrolls were around a thousand years older than any biblical manuscript known at the time, dating from approximately 250 BC to AD 50. The remarkable agreement between the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Old Testament demonstrates the careful preservation of Scripture across centuries and confirms that the Scriptures used by Jesus and the apostles are the same as those we read today. To see photos of the Qumran caves, visit [tinyurl.com/D6Qumran](https://tinyurl.com/D6Qumran).

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 2-1) and PowerPoint 2 (editable).



**PowerPoint 2**



**AH 2-3**

## Go Deeper

For additional information on how the New Testament was recognized, see **AH 2-3 (Canon)**. Consider giving a copy to each group member.

authoritative Word of God, using them as the foundation for teaching and the standard for evaluating doctrine ([Acts 17:2, 11; 18:28](#)).

**Live It Out:** Treasure God's Word by reading it, studying it, and trusting it.

### Discuss Together:

- *Why was preserving and studying Scripture so important to God's people throughout history?*
- *How does Jesus' use of the Old Testament strengthen confidence in the Hebrew Scriptures?*

The New Testament church continued the practice of collecting the writings recognized as authoritative and sharing them with other believers ([Colossians 4:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:27](#)). Paul frequently quoted Jesus, suggesting that records of His sayings were already circulating among believers ([Acts 20:35; 1 Corinthians 7:10; 9:14; 11:23–25; 1 Timothy 5:18b](#)). Peter even referred to Paul's writings as "Scripture" ([2 Peter 3:15–16](#)). These examples show that the teachings of Jesus and the writings of the apostles were recognized early as authoritative and were being collected, copied, and shared among churches. These writings became the foundation of the New Testament as it developed during the first century.

In the decades following the first century, Christians continued collecting and circulating the writings of the apostles, accounts of Jesus' life, and works explaining Christian doctrine. Over time, a process developed that recognized specific books as authoritative Scripture using several key criteria:

### 1. APOSTOLIC AUTHORITY

- Written by an apostle or someone closely associated with the apostles.

### 2. ORTHODOXY

- In harmony with apostolic doctrine and basic teachings of Christianity.

### 3. CHURCH APPROVED

- Received and recognized by the whole church from the earliest days.

**Live It Out:** Approach Scripture with confidence, knowing God faithfully preserved His Word through generations of believers.

### Discuss Together:

- *Why would the early Christians consider the writings of the apostles as authoritative?*

- *Why is it important to understand that the Church recognized Scripture rather than creating it?*

## ✧ BIG IDEA 2 ✧

### God Has Assured Us His Word Will Endure

[Psalm 119:89](#); [Isaiah 40:8](#); [Mark 13:31](#)

Scripture explains how God inspired His Word, teaching that men spoke from God as they were guided by the Holy Spirit ([2 Peter 1:21](#)). However, the Bible does not explain exactly how God preserves His Word; it simply assures us that He will. Since God inspired Scripture and protected it from error, it is logical to trust that He has also preserved it. Because Scripture does not describe one specific method of preservation, believers should avoid building a doctrine around a single theory. Instead, we can rest confidently in God's promise that His Word will endure.

We can observe God's preservation of Scripture through the abundance of surviving manuscripts. As the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls demonstrated, the Hebrew Scriptures were copied and passed down through the centuries with remarkable consistency. The New Testament writings show the same reliability. Scholars have catalogued around 5,800 handwritten Greek manuscripts containing portions of the New Testament. Some manuscripts are only small fragments, while others contain hundreds of pages. Although none of the original manuscripts still exist, the large number of surviving copies allows scholars to compare texts carefully and identify variations. Critics sometimes point to these textual differences as evidence that the Bible cannot be trusted, but this misrepresents the facts. From the beginning, Satan has challenged and questioned the truthfulness of God's Word ([Genesis 3:1, 4-5](#)), so believers should not be surprised when similar attacks continue today.

**Live It Out:** Rely on the unchanging Word of God as the trustworthy guide for your life.

#### Discuss Together:

- *What is the significance of having such an abundance of manuscripts of the biblical text?*
- *What does the preservation of Scripture across centuries reveal about God's character?*

Variations between handwritten copies are exactly what we would expect to find in documents copied by hand over many centuries. The reason for so many variations is the sheer number of manuscripts that exist. As New Testament textual scholar Daniel Wallace explains, many variants are so minor they

### Go Deeper

A dramatic difference exists between the number of New Testament manuscripts and other ancient writings. Around 5,800 Greek manuscripts of the New Testament exist, with the earliest surviving fragment of the gospel of John dating within about 50 years of the original writing, and complete New Testament manuscripts appearing less than 300 years after the original writings. By comparison, around 1,800 copies of Homer's *Iliad* exist, with the earliest copies appearing about 400 years after the original. Around 250 copies of Julius Caesar's *Gallic Wars* survive, with the earliest copy dating roughly 950 years later. About 210 copies of Plato's dialogues exist, separated from the originals by approximately 1,300 years. For more information, see [tinyurl.com/D6Biblio](http://tinyurl.com/D6Biblio).



## AH 2-4

### Major World Events That Shaped English Bible Translation

#### AD 1066

The Norman Invasion slowed Scripture translation into the English language.

#### AD 1453

The fall of Constantinople moved Greek culture and language westward, expanding access to the Greek New Testament.

#### AD 1455

Johannes Gutenberg invented the movable-type printing press, greatly increasing the spread of printed Bibles.

do not meaningfully affect translation—things like spelling differences and word order. Textual scholars, such as Dr. Wallace, who devote their lives to studying these manuscripts, consistently affirm that no essential Christian doctrine depends on a disputed text. Believers can have confidence that God has faithfully preserved His Word and that the Bible we hold today accurately communicates His message. **For more on this, see AH 2-4 (Translations).**

For a deeper study of New Testament manuscript research, visit The Center for the Study of New Testament Manuscripts at [csntm.org](https://csntm.org) or search for videos by Daniel Wallace on YouTube.

**Live It Out:** Trust that God has faithfully preserved His truth, even when critics question the reliability of Scripture.

#### Discuss Together:

- *Some critics will use textual variations to question the reliability of Scripture. Why should textual variations not undermine a believer's confidence in Scripture?*
- *How should confidence in the truthfulness and preservation of Scripture shape the way Christians live today?*

## \* BIG IDEA 3 \*

### God Communicates His Word in the Language of the People

[Mark 15:34–35](#); [Acts 2:6–8](#)

While on the cross, Jesus cried out using the words of Psalm 22:1 in Aramaic: “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (**Mark 15:34**). [Psalm 22](#) was originally written in Hebrew, Jesus appears to have quoted it in Aramaic, Mark explained its meaning in Greek, and modern Bibles translate it into English and other languages. Without translation, many readers would not understand what Jesus said, just as some bystanders mistakenly thought He was calling for Elijah (**Mark 15:35**). Translation is essential for communicating God's Word to people of different languages and cultures.

The Old Testament was written primarily in Hebrew because it was the common language of the Israelites. Portions of Ezra and Daniel, along with scattered phrases elsewhere in Scripture, were written in Aramaic, which became a dominant administrative and international language during the Persian Empire. Following the conquests of Alexander the Great, Greek emerged as the dominant international language, so the New Testament was written in Greek. Between approximately 280 and 100 BC, the Old Testament was translated

into Greek in a version known as the Septuagint, which became the standard Bible for many Greek-speaking Jews. Old Testament quotations in the New Testament often reflect the wording of the Septuagint.

On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit miraculously enabled people from many nations to hear God's message in their own languages (**Acts 2:6–8**). Jesus also commissioned His followers to make disciples among all nations (**Matthew 28:19**). In John's vision of Heaven, he saw a great multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language worshiping before the throne of God (**Revelation 7:9**). These passages reinforce God's desire for His Word to be understood by people in their own languages.

**Live It Out:** Help others understand God's Word by supporting efforts to make Scripture available in every heart language.

**Discuss Together:**

- *Why is it important for people to have the Bible in their heart language?*
- *What does Pentecost reveal about God's desire for people from every culture and language to hear His truth?*
- *What can Christians do to help make the Bible more understandable and accessible to others?*
- *What can Christians do to help younger generations better understand and engage with God's Word?*

## Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

**REFLECTION:** Challenge group members to consider the dedication and sacrifice of those who copied, translated, and preserved Scripture throughout history. Encourage them to thank God for preserving His Word and to take advantage of the access we have to Scripture today by reading, studying, and applying God's Word consistently in their daily lives.

**APOLOGETICS:** Remind group members that from the beginning of human history, Satan has challenged and questioned the accuracy and trustworthiness of God's Word. We need to equip ourselves with answers to the challenges we encounter. Encourage group members to explore videos and resources from scholars such as Daniel Wallace and Michael J. Kruger.

**SHARING ONE'S FAITH:** Encourage group members to help make God's Word understandable and accessible to others. Suggest supporting Bible

## D6

### Principle

Passing the faith to the next generation involves helping them understand, trust, and engage with God's Word in ways they can clearly understand.

## D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

## Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.

translation ministries, providing Bibles to younger Christians or seekers, or helping others engage with Scripture in ways that connect to their heart language and life experiences.

## Notes:



### AYG-2

*As You Go* (AYG-2) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *As You Go* is also available for FREE download at [D6curriculum.com/bonus](https://D6curriculum.com/bonus) (No password required.)



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)

LESSON 3  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

FAMILY THEME

# Who Is God?

## LESSON AIM

Understand how creation, design, and morality point to the existence of God and reveal foundational truths about who He is.

## STUDY TEXT

[Genesis 1:1; Romans 1:19–20](#)



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)



## BIG IDEAS

1. **Creation Points to a Creator** ([Genesis 1:1](#))
2. **Design Points to a Designer** ([Romans 1:19–20; Psalm 19:1](#))
3. **Our Sense of Right and Wrong Points to a Righteous God** ([Romans 2:12–15; Hebrews 10:16](#))

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Hebrews 4:12**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance.  
Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.



AH 3-1



AH 3-2

## Leader Lens

This lesson includes scientific and philosophical ideas that may feel intimidating. Don't feel pressure to explain every detail. Focus on the main truths, encourage discussion, and help group members see that belief in God is reasonable and points to who He is.

## Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

**VIDEO:** Begin by showing this video that asks, “Who is God?” ([tinyurl.com/WhoGodD6](https://tinyurl.com/WhoGodD6)). Discuss the video with group members and ask what evidence best supports the existence of God. Then say, *Today we will examine evidence that points to His existence.*

**CULTURAL MOMENT:** Ask group members to guess how many American adults believe in God. According to a 2025 report from Pew Research Center ([tinyurl.com/PewGod2025](https://tinyurl.com/PewGod2025)), 83% of U.S. adults believe in God or a universal spirit. Did that number surprise your group? Why or why not? Ask, *Does believing in a higher power automatically mean someone believes in the God of the Bible?* After discussion, say, *Many people believe in a higher power, but far fewer believe in the God of the Bible. Today we'll examine evidence for His existence.*

**OBJECT LESSON:** Bring in an object like a watch, phone, book, or a picture of a sandcastle. Show this to the group and ask, *Would anyone believe this just appeared on its own without a maker? Why not?* After discussion, ask, *Why do we naturally assume design requires a designer?* After discussion, say, *That instinct is something we'll build on as we think about who God is.*

## Teaching the Truth

Distribute the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 3-2).

### Gospel Connection

This lesson shows that God exists, created all things, and sets the standard of what is right. But it also reminds us that we fall short of that standard. The Bible reveals that God did not leave us in that condition. He made a way for us to be restored through His Son, Jesus Christ, who perfectly reveals who God is.

While the Bible clearly declares that God exists, this lesson will explore how the world around us also points to that same truth. From creation to design to our sense of right and wrong, we can see clear and reasonable evidence that points to the reality of a Creator.

## ✧ BIG IDEA 1 ✧

### Creation Points to a Creator

#### Genesis 1:1

It is logical to understand that everything that has a beginning has a cause. The latest iPhone had a beginning and a beginner. That latest hit show on Netflix had a beginning and a beginner. That new housing development had a beginning and a beginner. We understand that these things had a beginning and some intelligent designer who caused them. But what about the universe and life itself?

Leading scientists, both Christian and non-Christian, acknowledge that time, space, and matter began to exist at the universe's inception. If time, space, and matter did not exist before the beginning of the universe, then it is logical to conclude that the *cause* of the universe had to be timeless, spaceless, and immaterial. This is an important clarification when thinking about "big bang" cosmology. The "big bang" theory suggests that all matter in the universe was once concentrated at a single point and then expanded, eventually forming the cosmos as we know it today.

This raises an important question: Where did that matter come from? If everything that begins to exist has a cause, then something (or Someone) eternal must exist. Something outside of time, space, and matter had to initiate the beginning of it all.

**Genesis 1:1** tells us that God created all things in the beginning. This answers both how life began and who caused it. The eternal God described in the Bible corresponds with the understanding that the first cause was timeless, spaceless, and immaterial. God is not bound by time. Isaiah described Him as the One who inhabits eternity ([Isaiah 57:15](#)), and Jesus taught that God is spirit ([John 4:24](#)). The opening words of Scripture provide a foundation for understanding the universe as it actually is.

**Live It Out:** Be confident in God's existence as you consider the wonder and complexity of life and creation.

#### Discuss Together:

- *How does the First Cause Argument help explain why the universe points to a Creator? (Everything that begins to exist must have a cause, and the God of the Bible is the best explanation for that cause.)*
- *What questions naturally arise when we think about where everything came from?*

## Apologetics

The First Cause Argument helps explain the origin of the universe (also known as the Kalam cosmological argument). Simply put, everything that begins to exist must have a cause. There are three premises to this argument:

1. Whatever begins to exist has a cause.
2. The universe began to exist.
3. Therefore, the universe had a cause.

Read more at [tinyurl.com/D6First](http://tinyurl.com/D6First).

## Teacher Note

To maximize discussion, have the First Cause Argument and the Moral Law Argument (Big Idea 3) on the board or somewhere group members can see them.

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 3-1) and PowerPoint 3 (editable).



PowerPoint 3

## Apologetics

There are many finely tuned details about our universe that point to intelligent design.

Examples include:

1. The human body produces millions of red blood cells every second without any conscious effort. This intricate process continually sustains life and points to intentional design.
2. Earth's distance from the sun is precisely suited for life (the Goldilocks principle). If we were significantly closer, temperatures would be too extreme for survival. If we were farther away, the planet would be too cold to sustain life. This fine-tuning points to intentional design.
3. Jupiter's size and position in our solar system help shield Earth from frequent meteor impacts, making life here possible. If Jupiter were not this size or positioned where it is, Earth would experience far more frequent and destructive impacts, making life as we know it unlikely.
4. DNA contains an incredible amount of information that directs how our bodies grow and function. The complexity and precision of this information system point to an intelligent source rather than random chance.

- How does *Genesis 1:1* help answer those questions?
- How does understanding God as eternal shape the way you think about Him?

## ✧ BIG IDEA 2 ✧

### Design Points to a Designer

[Romans 1:19–20](#); [Psalm 19:1](#)

We can see design everywhere. We see it in a house, where someone planned the length, depth, and width of each room. The more elaborate the design, the higher the cost. The same is true for motor vehicles, clothing, technology, and so on. Every great novel has an author who intentionally shaped each character to fit the story.

The same can be said of the world around us. Everywhere we look, there is purpose and intentional design. In **Romans 1:19–20**, the apostle Paul explained that by looking at creation, every human can see evidence of God's eternal power and divine nature. God has made this truth plain to us through creation. Creation itself points beyond us to a Creator God.

**Live It Out:** As you observe the world around you, take time to notice specific examples of design in creation. Let them remind you of God's power and presence.

#### Discuss Together:

- What are some examples of design in the world that stand out to you?
- How do these examples point beyond themselves to a Creator?

In **Psalm 19:1**, David proclaimed that the heavens declare the glory of God and that the sky displays His handiwork. He attributed the beauty and order of the universe to its Creator. The psalmist of [Psalm 148](#) praised God for His craftsmanship in all of creation. Even without modern technology, people in ancient times recognized the order and beauty of creation and pointed to an Intelligent Designer. The same God who designed creation also continues to sustain it, holding all things together ([Colossians 1:17](#)).

**Live It Out:** Let the beauty and order of creation lead you to worship God as the Designer and Sustainer of all things.

#### Discuss Together:

- How does *Psalm 19:1* deepen your understanding of what creation reveals about God?
- In what ways does recognizing God as the Designer lead to worship and gratitude?

## ✧ BIG IDEA 3 ✧

### Our Sense of Right and Wrong Points to a Righteous God

[Romans 2:12–15](#); [Hebrews 10:16](#)

Where does our desire to be treated fairly come from? On a deeper level, how do we know that certain actions—like murder and abuse—are wrong? Where does this shared sense of right and wrong come from? It seems evident that humanity operates with a moral standard, but who established this standard?

If the Creator exists and spoke life into existence, then it is logical to conclude that He also established a standard of what is right. God’s standard of what is right helps us recognize what is wrong because He is a holy God, perfectly good and set apart from sin ([1 Peter 1:16](#)).

Many people would say that someone can be moral without believing in God. That is true. However, this does not explain where the *standard* for morality originates. Some suggest that morality developed over time as humans evolved.

But if morality were only the result of human development, then moral standards could change from person to person or culture to culture. What one group considers right, another could reject. Without a standard beyond humanity, morality would ultimately rest on human opinion.

An objective standard must come from something (or Someone) beyond humanity. We believe God is that standard. Because God has placed a sense of right and wrong within us, people across cultures can recognize when something is unjust or harmful.

In **Romans 2:12–15**, Paul explained that even those who do not have God’s written law still show that it is written on their hearts. In other words, both Jews and Gentiles have an awareness of right and wrong. **Hebrews 10:16** reminds us that God has written His laws on our hearts and minds.

**Live It Out:** Notice moments of fairness and injustice this week and let them point to the reality of a righteous God who has set a standard for all people.

#### Discuss Together:

- *Why do people across different cultures often agree on certain moral truths?*
- *What challenges would arise if morality were based only on personal or cultural opinions?*

## Apologetics

The Moral Law Argument suggests that the existence of moral values points to God:

1. If objective moral values exist, God exists.
2. Objective moral values exist.
3. Therefore, God exists.

Encourage families to discuss this idea together this week. Distribute **AH 3-3** (***Evidence That Points to God***) to group members so they can study this information.



**AH 3-3**

# D6

## Principle

[Deuteronomy 6:5–7](#) informs us that parents are responsible for teaching their children who God is and what He has done. If families do not intentionally teach a biblical view of God, culture will fill the gap with its own version. Passing down truth requires consistent, everyday conversations rooted in God's Word.

## D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

While creation and conscience point us toward God, He has also made Himself known more clearly in other ways:

**God's Word:** God has revealed Himself not only through creation but also through Scripture ([2 Timothy 3:16–17](#); [2 Peter 1:21](#)). Written by approximately 40 different authors over the span of 1,500 years in three languages, the Bible presents a unified message and maintains a common narrative that all points to God and His plan of redemption through His Son, Jesus. The Bible is special because the Holy Spirit inspired it. It records actual, historical accounts of historical people from historical places on a historical timeline.

**Personal Experience:** Many believers can point to moments when they have experienced God's grace and work personally. While experiences differ, they consistently point to a real and active God. Never underestimate the power of personal testimony.

**Live It Out:** Consider how our shared awareness of right and wrong points to God as the ultimate standard, and look for opportunities to share that truth with others.

### Discuss Together:

- *What does our shared sense of right and wrong suggest about where morality comes from?*
- *What is the difference between simply trying to be a moral person and living in response to God as the ultimate standard of right and wrong?*

These truths do more than point to the existence of a higher power. They point to the God revealed in Scripture—the God who created all things, who is wise and powerful, who is holy and sets the standard of right and wrong, and who has made Himself known. He is not distant or unknowable, but personal—a loving Father who is full of grace and compassion. The question is not simply whether God exists, but who He is. In the coming lesson, we will see how God has made Himself known most clearly through His Son, Jesus Christ.

## Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

**SHARING ONE'S FAITH:** Challenge group members to identify one person in their life who may have questions about God's existence. Encourage them to start a conversation this week by asking a simple question like, "What do you think about God?" Then, invite them to share one idea from today's lesson, such as how creation, design, or morality points to a Creator. Remind

group members that the goal is not to win an argument but to open a door for meaningful conversation about God.

**FAITH AT HOME:** Encourage group members to talk with their family this week about one way we can know God exists. Suggest choosing one example from the lesson—creation, design, or morality—and discussing it together in simple terms. Challenge parents and grandparents to ask questions and listen, helping children and students understand who God is and why we believe in Him.

**REFLECTION:** Challenge group members to reflect on which truth from today’s lesson strengthens their confidence in God the most. Encourage them to write down one reason they believe God exists and how that truth shapes the way they view the world. Then invite them to consider how that confidence could influence their conversations and decisions this week. AH 3-4 (*What Do You Believe About God?*) can help them with this challenge. What we believe about God changes everything.

# Notes:



AH 3-4

## Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.



### AYG-3

As You Go (AYG-3) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. As You Go is also available for FREE download at [D6curriculum.com/bonus](https://d6curriculum.com/bonus). (No password required.)



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)

LESSON 4  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

FAMILY THEME

# Who Is Jesus?

LESSON AIM

Understand who Jesus is, what He has done, and why He alone is the way to a restored relationship with God.

STUDY TEXT

[Matthew 27:45–28:10](#)



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)

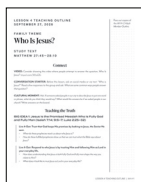


## BIG IDEAS

1. **Jesus Is the Promised Messiah Who Is Fully God and Fully Man** ([Isaiah 7:14; 9:6–7; Luke 2:25–32](#))
2. **Jesus Died and Rose Again to Defeat Sin and Death** ([Matthew 27:45–28:10](#))
3. **Jesus Is the Only Way to God** ([John 14:6; Romans 3:23–24; Galatians 2:16](#))

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Hebrews 4:12**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance.  
Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.



AH 4-1



AH 4-2

## Leader Lens

It can be easy to talk about who “Jesus is to me,” but this lesson focuses on who Jesus actually is according to Scripture. Help your group stay grounded in what the Bible says about Him, not just personal opinions or experiences.

## Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

**VIDEO:** Who is Jesus? It’s a question many have asked. Consider showing this video where people attempt to answer that question: [tinyurl.com/WhoD6](https://tinyurl.com/WhoD6). Discuss the video. Then say, *Today we will examine who Jesus is, not from the world’s perspective, but from a biblical perspective.*

**CONVERSATION STARTER:** During the week before this lesson, ask on social media or via text: “Who is Jesus?” Read a few responses to the group and ask: *What are some common ways people answer that question?* Then say, *People have many different ideas about Jesus, but today we’re going to focus on what Scripture says about who He is.*

**CULTURAL MOMENT:** Ask: *If someone asked people in our city to describe Jesus in just one word or phrase, what do you think they would say? What would the answers be if we asked people in our church?* Write answers on the board. Then ask, *Do all of these descriptions fully capture who Jesus is?* After discussion, say: *Today we’re going to see that Jesus is more than any single description people give.*

## Teaching the Truth

Distribute copies of the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 4-2).

### Gospel Connection

This lesson shows how God’s promises point to Jesus. From the beginning, God promised a Savior who would deal with sin and restore what was broken. Throughout the Old Testament, those promises pointed forward to the Messiah, and in Jesus, they are fulfilled. His life, death, and resurrection are the center of God’s plan to bring redemption to the world.

People have many different ideas about who Jesus is. Some see Him as a great teacher, others as a prophet, and some simply as a historical figure. But what we believe about Jesus matters more than we might think. In this lesson, we’ll look at what Scripture actually says about who He is and why it matters for our lives.

## ✧ BIG IDEA 1 ✧

### Jesus Is the Promised Messiah Who Is Fully God and Fully Man

[Isaiah 7:14; 9:6–7; Luke 2:25–32](#)

Throughout Scripture, we find promises about a coming Savior. Many people do not realize that these prophecies were written hundreds of years before Jesus was born. These prophecies remind us that Jesus is not simply part of a story. He is the Messiah that God promised to send.

[Isaiah 7](#) records one of those promises during a time of fear and uncertainty. King Ahaz of Judah feared that enemy nations would defeat him, yet God assured him that their plans would not prevail (verses 3–9). In the midst of that fear, God gave a sign, not one chosen by Ahaz, but by God Himself: a virgin would conceive and bear a son (**verse 14**). While this promise had meaning in Ahaz’s day, it pointed to a greater fulfillment still to come.

Isaiah also described the coming Savior in another way. He would bring light into darkness and hope into a sinful world ([Isaiah 9:2–3](#)). Isaiah gave Him names that reveal His identity: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (**Isaiah 9:6–7**). These titles point clearly to His divine nature. The child who would be born is also the Mighty God.

Other prophets spoke of the Messiah as well. Micah foretold that He would be born in Bethlehem ([Micah 5:2](#)). Isaiah wrote that He would be called Immanuel, meaning “God with us” (**Isaiah 7:14**).

**Live It Out:** Trust that God keeps His promises by looking to Jesus, the Savior He sent.

#### Discuss Together:

- *What do these prophecies teach us about who Jesus is?*
- *How do these fulfilled prophecies show us that we can trust what the Bible says about Jesus?*

These prophecies find their fulfillment in Jesus. Matthew tells us that Jesus was born of a virgin, fulfilling what the Lord had spoken ([Matthew 1:22–23](#)). His birth was the moment God entered the world He created. Jesus was not merely sent by God. He is God in the flesh who came to live among us.

At the same time, this promised Savior truly entered human history. He was born as a child, lived among His people, and experienced life in a fallen world. When we turn to [Luke 2:25–38](#), we see this promise becoming reality. Simeon had been waiting for the Messiah, and when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 4-1) and PowerPoint 4 (editable).



PowerPoint 4



AH 4-3

## Apologetics

Some question whether Jesus even existed or whether He ever claimed to be God. However, both Scripture and history affirm that Jesus was a real person. Non-Christian historians such as Tacitus and Josephus wrote about Jesus and His execution. The Gospels also make clear that Jesus claimed a unique identity. He forgave sins, accepted worship, and identified Himself as the Son of God. In [John 10:33](#), religious leaders sought to stone Him because they understood He claimed to be equal with God. This evidence shows that Jesus was not simply a teacher. He claimed to be God, and those who heard Him understood exactly what He meant. Give **AH 4-3 (Who Is Jesus?)** to group members so they can reflect on this truth this week.

to the Temple, Simeon recognized that this child was the salvation God had promised. Holding Jesus in his arms, he praised God, knowing he had seen the Savior prepared for all people (**verses 29–32**).

In this moment, we see both the humanity and the divinity of Jesus. He was a real child, brought to the Temple by His earthly parents, yet He was also the Savior sent by God for the world. Simeon understood that this child would bring salvation not only to Israel but also to the Gentiles. Jesus came for all people.

It is important to remember that Jesus did not begin to exist when He was born, which logically agrees with the virgin birth—He did not to come into existence as a new life; He just needed entrance into the world as a human. He has always existed as God, and [John 1](#) tells us that He was present at Creation. He is fully God and fully man, the Son of God who came to live among us. Only someone who is fully God could provide salvation, and only someone who is fully man could represent us as our substitute before God. Jesus is both.

Jesus is the promised Messiah, the Son of God, fully God and fully man, and Lord over all, who came into the world for us. He not only came once, but He will come again to complete God's plan and establish His kingdom.

**Live It Out:** Respond to who Jesus is by trusting Him and following Him as Lord in your everyday life.

**Discuss Together:**

- *How does understanding that Jesus is both fully God and fully man shape the way you relate to Him?*
- *What does it look like to trust Jesus as Lord in your everyday life?*

## ✧ BIG IDEA 2 ✧

### Jesus Died and Rose Again to Defeat Sin and Death

[Matthew 27:45–28:10](#)

The death of Jesus was part of God's plan to deal with sin. The Bible teaches that all people have sinned and stand under God's judgment, yet Jesus came to bear the penalty for sin on our behalf. Many of the religious leaders rejected Jesus because of who He claimed to be and wanted Him crucified. He claimed authority to forgive sins and identified Himself as the Son of God, which they considered blasphemy ([John 10:33](#)). Even as He was crucified, the events surrounding His death were fulfilling what Scripture had foretold. Jesus willingly gave His life to pay the penalty for sin and to make a way for people to be restored to God.

At Golgotha, the “place of the skull” ([Matthew 27:33](#)), Jesus was crucified. The soldiers divided His garments among themselves, fulfilling prophecy ([Psalm 22:18](#)). Even the criminals beside Him fulfilled prophecy ([Isaiah 53:12](#)), while the crowds and religious leaders mocked and insulted Him ([Psalm 22:7–8](#)).

Darkness covered the land at noon (**Matthew 27:45**). In that moment, Jesus cried out, *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?* (**verse 46**), quoting [Psalm 22:1](#). He was bearing the sins of the world and suffering on our behalf. After enduring immense suffering, Jesus cried out again and yielded up His spirit (**verse 50**). As recorded in [John 19:30](#), He declared, *It is finished*. Jesus did this out of love for us, paying the penalty for sin on our behalf.

**Live It Out:** Take time to reflect on what Jesus endured on the cross and what His sacrifice means for you.

**Discuss Together:**

- *What difference does it make to know that Jesus’ death was part of God’s plan and not an accident?*
- *What stands out to you most about what Jesus endured on the cross?*

At the moment of His death, significant events occurred. The curtain of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom (**verse 51**), showing that the barrier between a holy God and sinful humanity had been removed. An earthquake shook the land, and even a Roman centurion recognized that Jesus was truly the Son of God (**verse 54**). After His death, Jesus was buried in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, and a guard was set to secure it (**verses 57–66**). While His death was real, it was not the end of the story.

Matthew 28 begins with the greatest news ever told. The women who had followed Jesus came to the tomb, only to find the stone had been rolled away (**verses 1–2**). An angel announced that Jesus was not there, for He had risen, just as He had said (**verses 5–6**).

The women quickly left to tell the disciples. On their way, they encountered Jesus Himself (**verse 9**). They fell at His feet and worshiped Him, recognizing that He had risen bodily from the dead. Jesus reassured them and instructed them to tell the disciples that He was alive (**verse 10**). The fact that Jesus appeared to the women, and later to many others, affirms the reality of the Resurrection ([1 Corinthians 15:3–8](#)).

Despite this, some still attempted to deny the truth. The religious leaders bribed the soldiers to spread a false story that the disciples had stolen the body ([Matthew 28:11–15](#)). Yet the tomb had been sealed and guarded, and from a human standpoint, it would have been impossible for the disciples to

remove the body unnoticed.

The truth is clear. Jesus died to pay the penalty for our sins, and He rose from the dead, defeating sin and death. What seemed like a moment of defeat became the greatest victory in history.

Because Jesus died and rose again, we can have forgiveness of sin and a restored relationship with God. His death was the sacrifice we needed, and His resurrection is the proof that sin and death have been overcome.

**Live It Out:** Live in the hope and freedom that come from knowing Jesus has defeated sin and death.

**Discuss Together:**

- *What does Jesus' resurrection show us about who He is?*
- *How does knowing Jesus has defeated sin and death change the way you live today?*

### ✧ BIG IDEA 3 ✧

#### Jesus Is the Only Way to God

[John 14:6](#); [Romans 3:23–24](#); [Galatians 2:16](#)

Many people struggle with the exclusive claims of Christ. For some, the idea that there is only one way to God seems narrow-minded. This is not a claim Christians came up with, but one made by Jesus Himself.

In [John 14:6](#), Jesus taught that He alone is the way to the Father and that no one comes to God except through Him. The apostles affirmed this as well, declaring that salvation is found in no one else ([Acts 4:12](#)). Rather than excluding people, Jesus was inviting all people to come to Him and receive salvation.

**Live It Out:** Take time to consider what Jesus claims about Himself and what that means for you.

**Discuss Together:**

- *Why do you think Jesus' claim to be the only way to God can be difficult for people to accept?*
- *What makes Jesus trustworthy when He says He is the only way to God?*

Jesus alone has the authority to make such a claim. He is the Creator ([Colossians 1:16–17](#)), lived a sinless life ([Hebrews 4:15](#)), performed miracles that demonstrated His power, fulfilled prophecy, and rose from the dead. No one else in history has these credentials. Because of who He is, we should take His words about

#### Go Deeper

Recently, an interview in a major publication described someone as a “Christian Buddhist,” blending beliefs from different religions. While that approach may sound open-minded, Jesus did not leave room for a mix-and-match understanding of who He is. If He is truly the Son of God and the only way to the Father, then He cannot simply be added to other beliefs. What we believe about Jesus shapes everything. He is not just a teacher we can include in our worldview. He is either Lord and Savior, or He is not.

eternal life seriously.

The Bible also explains why we need a Savior. Every person has sinned and fallen short of God's standard ([Romans 3:10–12, 23](#)). Sin is not a small issue. It is the condition of a heart in rebellion against God, and it leads to separation from Him. Jesus warned that if people do not believe in Him, they will remain separated from God because of their sin ([John 8:24](#)). No amount of good works can remove the guilt of sin or restore our relationship with God.

Because of this, we cannot save ourselves. Just as a doctor gives a diagnosis and treatment, Jesus provides the only solution to our greatest problem. Directing people to Him is not arrogant or unloving. It is truthful and caring.

The good news is that God has made a way for us to be forgiven. **Galatians 2:16** teaches that we are not made right with God by keeping the Law or by good works, but through faith in Jesus Christ. Justification means that through Christ, our sin is paid for and we are declared righteous in God's sight. This is possible because Jesus took our sin upon Himself and gave us His righteousness ([2 Corinthians 5:21](#)).

This is often called the “marvelous exchange.” Jesus bore our sin so that we could receive His righteousness. Our debt is paid in full. As **Romans 3:24** explains, we are made right with God by His grace through the redemption that is found in Christ Jesus. This free gift is acquired through faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8).

Jesus is the only way to God because He is the only One who has dealt with our sin through His death and resurrection and made a way for us to be made right with Him. Salvation is not something we earn. It is a gift we receive by faith. Because of what Jesus has done, anyone who trusts in Him can be forgiven and enter into a restored relationship with God.

**Live It Out:** Respond to the good news of the gospel by trusting in Jesus and resting in what He has done for you.

**Discuss Together:**

- *Why is it important to understand that we cannot earn our way to God?*
- *What does it look like to trust Jesus instead of relying on our own efforts?*

**D6**

**Principle**

What we believe about Jesus must be intentionally taught and modeled at home and in the church. As the next generation hears and sees who He is and what He has done, they learn that following Him shapes every part of life.

## D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.



AH 4-4



AYG-4

As You Go (AYG-4) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. As You Go is also available for FREE download at [D6curriculum.com/bonus](https://d6curriculum.com/bonus). (No password required.)

## Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.

# Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

**REFLECTION:** Challenge group members to take time this week to consider who Jesus is. Encourage them to write down how they would answer the question, “Who is Jesus?” using what the Bible teaches rather than personal opinion. Then invite them to reflect on whether their daily lives align with that belief and to identify one area where they need to trust or follow Him more fully.

**FAITH AT HOME:** Encourage group members to have a conversation with their family or someone close to them about who Jesus is. Suggest that they ask how others would answer that question and share what they learned from this lesson. Recommend reading a key passage together (John 14:6 or Matthew 28:1–10) and discussing what it reveals about Jesus and how that truth shapes everyday life.

**TRUTH IN ACTION:** Encourage group members to identify one area of their daily lives where they need to submit to Jesus as Lord. Challenge them to take one intentional step this week to follow Him more closely in that area, whether in their decisions, priorities, or relationships. AH 4-4 (*Following Jesus*) can help group members put truth in action.

## Notes:



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)

LESSON 5  
OCTOBER 4, 2026

FAMILY THEME

# Who Is the Holy Spirit?

LESSON AIM

Understand who the Holy Spirit is and how He works in the lives of believers.

STUDY TEXT

[John 14:16–26; Acts 2:1–4](#)



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)



## BIG IDEAS

1. The Holy Spirit Is God and Has Been Present and Active From the Beginning of Creation ([Genesis 1:1–2; Psalm 139:7–10](#))
2. The Holy Spirit Dwells in Every Believer ([John 14:16–17; Acts 2:1–4; 1 Corinthians 6:19](#))
3. The Holy Spirit Helps Us Know and Follow Jesus ([John 14:26; 15:26](#))

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Colossians 2:6–7**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance. Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.



AH 5-1



AH 5-2

## Leader Lens

As you teach this lesson, remember you are not relying on your own ability alone.

The Holy Spirit helps you understand God's Word and communicate truth clearly ([John 14:26](#)). Take time to pray, asking Him to guide your teaching and work in the hearts of your group members.

Your role is to faithfully share truth and trust the Spirit to do the deeper work.

## Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

**VIDEO:** Begin by showing this video that explains the Holy Spirit's interaction with creation: [tinyurl.com/D6Thirdmill](https://tinyurl.com/D6Thirdmill). Discuss the video with your group. Then say, *Today we will see that the Holy Spirit was active in Creation and continues to work in our lives today.*

**GAME:** Divide your group into three smaller groups. Assign each group one of the following: "God the Father," "Jesus," or "Holy Spirit." Give each group 60 seconds to list as many words or phrases as they can that describe or are associated with their assigned Person of the Godhead. After time is up, have each group share their responses. Then ask the group assigned "Holy Spirit," *Did you find this more difficult than the others? Did you run out of ideas more quickly? If so, why do you think that is?* After a brief discussion, say, *Many believers feel less confident when talking about the Holy Spirit. Today, we'll look at what Scripture teaches about who He is and how He works in our lives.*

**CULTURAL MOMENT:** Say, *In movies and TV shows, a "spirit" is often portrayed as something mysterious or even frightening. Ask your group, How have you seen the idea of "spirit" misunderstood in culture?* After discussion, explain that many people carry those same assumptions into their understanding of the Holy Spirit. Then say, *Today we'll look at how Scripture defines who the Holy Spirit truly is.*

## Teaching the Truth

Distribute the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 5-2).

### Gospel Connection

This lesson helps us understand who the Holy Spirit is and how He works in our lives. The Holy Spirit helps us understand the truth about Jesus, convicts us of sin, and draws us to faith in Christ ([John 16:8–13](#)). When we believe, He gives us new life and comes to dwell within us ([Titus 3:5](#)). Through His work, we are brought into a relationship with God and empowered to follow Jesus.

The Holy Spirit is often the least understood and least discussed Person of the Trinity. Many believers are unsure of how to describe Him or explain what He does, and because of that, conversations about the Holy Spirit are sometimes avoided altogether. Others might associate the Spirit primarily with feelings or experiences rather than with clear biblical truth. Yet Scripture gives us a rich and consistent picture of who the Holy Spirit is, what He does, and how He

is actively at work in the lives of believers today. As we study God's Word, we can grow in both our understanding of the Holy Spirit and our confidence in how He is present and working in our lives.

## ✧ BIG IDEA 1 ✧

### The Holy Spirit Is God and Has Been Present and Active From the Beginning of Creation

[Genesis 1:1–2](#); [Psalm 139:7–10](#)

The Holy Spirit is not a force or an abstract influence—He is a personal being and is fully God. As the third Person of the Trinity, He is fully equal with the Father and the Son, and has been actively at work from the very beginning of Creation. We see the Spirit present at Creation (**Genesis 1:1–2**), revealing that He is fully God, sharing in the nature and work of the Father and the Son. The Bible also shows that God's work in creation is unified: the Father creates, the Son is the Word through whom all things were made ([John 1:1–3](#)), and the Spirit is actively present. This reminds us that the Holy Spirit is not separate from God, but fully part of the one true God.

**Live It Out:** Recognize and reflect on who the Holy Spirit truly is.

#### Discuss Together:

- *Why is it important that the Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity and not separate from God?*
- *What difference does it make that the same Spirit present at Creation is still at work today?*

Throughout the Old Testament, God's Spirit was personally involved in the lives of His people. In [Isaiah 63](#), we read of how the Spirit led and cared for Israel as God delivered them from Egypt. Yet even in His faithfulness, the people resisted and grieved Him. This reminds us that the Holy Spirit is not impersonal; He relates to people and can be responded to.

**Psalm 139:7–10** highlights another important truth: God's Spirit is always present. There is no place we can go to escape Him. The psalmist recognized both the comfort and the weight of this reality. The same Spirit who guided Israel is the One who knows us fully and is with us always.

**Live It Out:** Reflect on the reality of the Holy Spirit's constant presence.

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 5-1) and PowerPoint 5 (editable).



PowerPoint 5



AH 5-3

**AH 5-3 (Who Is the Holy Spirit?)** discusses misconceptions vs. truth regarding the Holy Spirit. Distribute this to group members.

## Go Deeper

The Spirit's work in the Old Testament was often selective and temporary. For example, the Spirit came upon Samson to give him strength ([Judges 14:6, 19; 15:14](#)). Similarly, the Spirit empowered Saul for leadership but later departed from him ([1 Samuel 11:6; 16:14; 19:23](#)). These examples highlight how the Spirit's presence differed before Pentecost.

## Apologetics

Some people think of the Holy Spirit as an impersonal force, like energy or a feeling. However, Scripture teaches that the Holy Spirit is a Person who is fully God. Even though the Greek word for spirit (*pneuma*) is a neuter noun, John used the masculine pronouns *He* and *His* in reference to the Holy Spirit. He speaks ([Acts 13:2](#)), teaches ([John 14:26](#)), guides ([John 16:13](#)), and can be grieved ([Ephesians 4:30](#)). These are not qualities of a force, but of a personal being. Understanding this helps us relate to the Holy Spirit not as something we use, but as Someone we know, trust, and respond to.

### Discuss Together:

- *What does Psalm 139 teach us about the Holy Spirit's presence in every part of our lives?*
- *In what ways can remembering God's constant presence bring both comfort and conviction?*

From these and other passages, we see that the Holy Spirit has always been present, personal, and active in God's work. However, before Pentecost ([Acts 2](#)), His work in individuals was often temporary and task-specific. He came upon certain people to lead, empower, and accomplish God's purposes.

This prepares us to understand something even greater: in the New Testament, the Holy Spirit's work would expand in a new and personal way for all believers. He would dwell in every believer.

## ✧ BIG IDEA 2 ✧

### The Holy Spirit Dwells in Every Believer

[John 14:16–17; Acts 2:1–4; 1 Corinthians 6:19](#)

While the Holy Spirit has always been present and active, something changed in a significant way in the New Testament. Before Jesus returned to the Father, He promised His disciples that the Holy Spirit would come to be with them and in them ([John 14:16–17](#)). This outpouring of the Spirit was prophesied by Joel ([Joel 2:28](#)) and fulfilled at Pentecost, when the Spirit was given not just to a few, but to all who would believe ([Acts 2:1–4; 2:16–17](#)).

**Live It Out:** Consider what changed when the Holy Spirit was given to all believers at Pentecost.

### Discuss Together:

- *Why is it significant that the Holy Spirit now dwells in every believer, not just a select few?*
- *What does this change reveal about God's desire for a personal relationship with us?*

In the Old Testament, the Spirit of God came upon certain individuals for specific purposes—empowering leaders, prophets, and others to accomplish God's work. However, this presence was often temporary and selective. In contrast, the New Testament reveals that the Holy Spirit now dwells within every believer. What was once selective is now personal and permanent.

In [1 Corinthians 6:19](#), the apostle Paul reminded believers that their bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit who lives within them. This means that every

follower of Christ is not only guided by the Spirit but indwelt by Him. God's presence is no longer experienced in a limited or external way but is now internal and ongoing.

This indwelling is not based on spiritual maturity or special status. It is a gift given to all believers at salvation. The same Spirit who was present at Creation and active throughout the Old Testament now lives within us, empowering us to grow, to obey, and to live in relationship with God. He is also the One who gives us new spiritual life, bringing about the transformation that makes us part of God's family ([John 3:5-8](#); [Titus 3:5](#)).

**Live It Out:** Reflect on what it means that the Holy Spirit lives within every believer.

**Discuss Together:**

- *How does knowing that the Holy Spirit lives within you affect how you view your daily life?*
- *In what ways could remembering the Holy Spirit's presence shape your choices or priorities this week?*

✧ **BIG IDEA 3** ✧

**The Holy Spirit Helps Us Know and Follow Jesus**

[John 14:26](#); [15:26](#)

Because the Holy Spirit now dwells within every believer, He is actively at work in our daily lives. He is not distant or passive, but personally helps us grow in our understanding of God and our relationship with Christ. Jesus taught that the Holy Spirit would guide His followers into truth, remind them of His words, and help them understand what He had revealed ([John 14:26](#); [16:13](#)).

The Holy Spirit's role is not to draw attention to Himself, but to point us to Christ. In [John 15:26](#), Jesus said that the Spirit would testify about Him. One clear sign of the Spirit's work in a believer's life is a growing understanding of who Jesus is and what He has done.

**Live It Out:** Pay attention to how the Holy Spirit helps you know and understand Jesus.

**Discuss Together:**

- *What are some ways the Holy Spirit helps us better understand God's truth?*

**Go Deeper:**  
**What If I Don't Feel  
the Holy Spirit?**

Many believers expect to always feel the Holy Spirit's presence, but Scripture teaches that His work is not based on our emotions. The Holy Spirit dwells in every believer as a gift from God ([1 Corinthians 6:19](#)), whether we feel it or not. Feelings come and go, but God's promises do not change. Instead of relying on emotions, we can trust what God has said in His Word. Over time, as we grow in our relationship with Him, we might become more aware of His work, but His presence is constant, even when it is not felt.

## Apologetics

It is common to hear people say, “The Holy Spirit told me . . .” But how can we know if something truly comes from the Spirit? Scripture gives us clear guidance. The Holy Spirit always leads in ways that align with God’s Word ([John 16:13](#)). He points people to Jesus, not to themselves ([John 15:26](#)). He produces godly character, not confusion or sin ([Galatians 5:22–23](#)). While the Spirit may guide believers in specific ways, His leading will never contradict Scripture. Learning to recognize His voice involves knowing God’s Word, seeking wise counsel, and responding with humility and obedience.

## D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

- *How can we become more receptive to the Spirit’s work in helping us know Jesus?*

As the Spirit works within believers, He also produces visible change. Scripture teaches that the Spirit forms Christlike character in us, producing fruit such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control ([Galatians 5:22–23](#)). These qualities are not the result of human effort alone, but the result of the Spirit’s ongoing work in the life of a believer.

Because the Holy Spirit dwells within us, He continues to work in our lives. He teaches us truth ([John 16:13](#)), convicts us of sin ([John 16:8](#)), and strengthens us as we rely on Him to live in a way that honors God ([Ephesians 3:16](#)). He empowers us to resist temptation and make godly choices ([Galatians 5:16](#)), helps us understand and apply God’s Word ([John 14:26](#); [1 Corinthians 2:12–13](#)), and gives us the words and courage to speak about Christ when we have the opportunity ([Luke 12:11–12](#); [Acts 1:8](#)). He also assures us that we belong to God and strengthens our confidence as His children ([Romans 8:14–16](#)).

As He works within us, this transformation is ongoing, shaping us to become more like Christ. In all of this, His purpose is clear: to make Christ known ([John 15:26](#)) and to shape us into His likeness ([Galatians 5:22–23](#)).

**Live It Out:** Respond to the Holy Spirit’s work in your life this week.

### Discuss Together:

- *How have you seen the fruit of the Spirit growing in your life over time?*
- *How has the Holy Spirit been working in your life recently to make you more like Jesus?*

## Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

**FAITH AT HOME:** Encourage group members to take one intentional step this week to talk about the Holy Spirit with their family, friends, or roommates. This could be as simple as asking, “Who is the Holy Spirit?” or “What does the Holy Spirit do?” during a meal or drive time. Remind them that they do not need to have all the answers because the Holy Spirit helps us understand and speak truth. Encourage them to read one of the key passages from this lesson together (such as [John 14:26](#) or [Acts 2:1–4](#)) and talk about what it teaches. The goal is not perfection but creating space for ongoing conversations about God and His Word in the home.

**SHARING ONE’S FAITH:** Encourage group members to look for one opportunity this week to share what they have learned about the Holy Spirit with someone else. This could be a believer who needs encouragement or someone who has questions about faith. A simple way to begin is by sharing how the Holy Spirit helps us understand truth, gives us new life, and points us to Jesus. Remind group members that they do not have to rely on their own words because the Holy Spirit gives wisdom and helps us speak when opportunities arise ([Luke 12:11–12](#)). Pray for boldness and be attentive to conversations God may bring your way.

**REFLECTION:** Encourage group members to spend time this week intentionally depending on the Holy Spirit in one specific area of their lives. Ask them to identify a situation where they need guidance, strength, or understanding, such as a decision, a struggle with temptation, or time in God’s Word. Then, challenge them to pause and pray, asking the Holy Spirit to help them in that moment. Throughout the week, encourage them to take note of how the Spirit is at work, whether through Scripture, conviction, peace, or growth. This practice helps develop a greater awareness of the Holy Spirit’s presence and work in everyday life. AH 5-4 can help with this.

Notes:



AH 5-4

D6

Principle

Parents may sometimes feel inadequate or unsure of how to lead their children spiritually, but they are not alone. As parents spend time in God’s Word and rely on the Spirit’s help, they can trust the Holy Spirit to give them wisdom, understanding, and the words to share truth with their children. Discipleship in the home is not about having all the answers, but about faithfully depending on the Holy Spirit and pointing the next generation to Christ.

## Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.



### AYG-5

*As You Go* (AYG-5) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *As You Go* is also available for FREE download at [D6curriculum.com/bonus](https://d6curriculum.com/bonus). (No password required.)



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)

FAMILY THEME

# What Is Discipleship?

LESSON AIM

Understand that discipleship is the lifelong process of following Jesus, growing in Him, and helping others do the same.

STUDY TEXT

[Mark 1:14–20](#)



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)



## BIG IDEAS

1. **Following Jesus Requires Surrender, Trust, and Daily Obedience** ([Mark 1:14–17a](#))
2. **Spiritual Growth Happens Intentionally Through a Relationship With Christ** ([Mark 1:18–20](#))
3. **Healthy Disciples Help Others Follow Jesus and Grow in Their Faith** ([Mark 1:17b](#))

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Colossians 2:6–7**) along with family members.



AH 6-1



AH 6-2

## Leader Lens

This lesson is highly relational and discussion-driven, so resist the urge to turn it into a lecture. Many group members may be familiar with the word *discipleship* but have rarely considered what it truly means to follow Jesus daily. Focus on helping learners reflect honestly on their spiritual growth, relationships, and influence. Create space for conversation, personal examples, and practical application. As you prepare, ask God to show you where you are still growing as a disciple and where He may be calling you to influence others intentionally.

## Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

**REFLECTION ACTIVITY:** Ask the group to think about a time they stepped into a new season of life, moved away from something familiar, or took an unfamiliar opportunity. What was hardest to leave behind? What excited them most about what lay ahead? After several responses, say: *The first disciples experienced a similar moment in Mark 1. Following Jesus required them to leave behind security and routine in order to follow Him into something greater.*

**GROUP DISCUSSION:** Ask group members, *What does it take for you to truly follow someone?* Answers will likely involve trust, credibility, consistency, leadership, or shared values. Then ask, *What would make someone leave behind security, career plans, or comfort to follow another person?* After discussion, say, *The disciples responded immediately to Jesus' invitation because they believed He was worth trusting with their entire lives.*

**DISCUSSION STARTER:** Begin by asking, *Is there a person in your life you have most tried to imitate or learn from? Who has had the greatest influence on your life or faith? What made that influence so meaningful?* Encourage group members to think beyond pastors or formal teachers. Many might mention a parent, coach, mentor, grandparent, or friend. After discussion, say, *Discipleship has always been relational. Jesus changed lives by inviting people to walk closely with Him, and He still uses relationships to shape people today.*

## Teaching the Truth

Distribute copies of the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 6-2).

### Gospel Connection

This lesson explores what it means to follow Jesus as a disciple. Discipleship begins with the gospel because Jesus died and rose again to forgive sin and restore people to God. Through faith in Christ, believers are transformed by His grace, grow to become more like Him, and help others follow Him as well.

Before Jesus gave the Great Commission, He modeled it throughout His ministry. Jesus called disciples who would eventually go and make disciples. Discipleship was never intended to stop with one generation or with one believer becoming a Christian. Following Jesus always leads to helping others follow Him.

[Mark 1](#) presents the opening moments of Jesus' public ministry. As Jesus walked along the shoreline of Galilee, He saw ordinary fishermen working their nets and invited them to follow Him. In that moment, Simon, Andrew, James, and John left behind security, routine, and familiarity to follow Jesus (**Mark 1:16–20**). Their response showed more than belief; it revealed surrendered and transformed lives. The call to follow Jesus would begin a revolution unlike any other event in human history.

## ✧ BIG IDEA 1 ✧

### Following Jesus Requires Surrender, Trust, and Daily Obedience

[Mark 1:14–17a](#)

Jesus sees potential in ordinary people. He did not begin His ministry by recruiting religious elites, professional scholars, or powerful leaders. Instead, He called fishermen with everyday responsibilities and relationships (**Mark 1:16–17**). Tax collectors, physicians, and others from different walks of life would also follow Jesus ([Matthew 9:9–13](#); [Colossians 4:14](#); [Acts 16:14](#)). Throughout Scripture, God consistently worked through ordinary people who were willing to follow Him.

Along the shoreline of Galilee, Jesus offered a simple but life-changing invitation: “Follow Me” (**Mark 1:17**). **Discipleship begins with surrender, trust, and closeness to Christ** ([Luke 9:23](#)). Imagine if the disciples had responded, “We can give You an hour or two each week.” Their lives would never have been transformed, and the world would never have changed through them. Following Jesus required more than admiration—it required leaving behind comfort, routine, and security because the disciples believed He was worth trusting with their entire lives (**Mark 1:18**).

Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, “Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ.” A disciple is not someone who merely agrees with Jesus but someone who follows Him ([John 8:31](#)).

**Live It Out:** Identify an area of your life where following Jesus requires deeper trust or surrender. Ask God to help you follow Him more fully.

#### Discuss Together:

- *Why do you think Jesus called ordinary people to follow Him?*
- *What makes surrender difficult when following Christ?*

Notice where Jesus called His disciples. He did not wait for them to arrive at the synagogue. He met them in the middle of everyday life while they worked their nets. Jesus still calls people in classrooms, offices, homes, neighborhoods,

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 6-1) and PowerPoint 6 (editable).



PowerPoint 6

factories, and coffee shops. God often works through ordinary people who are willing to follow Him faithfully.

The word *disciple* can describe both a follower of Jesus and the act of helping others follow Him. Healthy disciples help others follow Christ and become disciplemakers themselves ([Matthew 28:19–20](#)). Discipleship is the lifelong process of helping people surrender to Christ, follow Him daily, and faithfully pass their faith along to others.

Discipleship reaches far beyond attending a Sunday School class or small group once a week. Spiritual growth was never intended to be confined to a scheduled hour on a church campus. True discipleship shapes the way we think, speak, serve, love, and live every day ([Romans 12:1–2](#)). Disciples continually seek to know Christ more deeply, learn from other believers, and help others follow Jesus along the way.

Simon and Andrew were not searching for Jesus when He called them. He came looking for them (**Mark 1:16–17**). Before giving them an assignment, He invited them into relationship. Following Jesus always comes before influencing others for Jesus.

Jesus reminded the disciples that transformation ultimately comes from Him. He did not ask them to transform themselves. Instead, Jesus would shape them, mature them, and prepare them for His mission.

Following Jesus is not a casual commitment. Peter reminded believers that following Christ means following His example, even in suffering ([1 Peter 2:21](#)). Scripture also teaches that Christ’s followers are called to live differently from the culture around them ([Romans 12:2](#)). Deep discipleship begins by learning from Christ through His Word and allowing Him to reshape every area of life.

**Live It Out:** Follow Jesus more intentionally in everyday life this week through your words, attitudes, relationships, or decisions.

**Discuss Together:**

- *How would you explain the difference between believing in Jesus and truly following Him?*
- *What are some ways following Jesus should shape everyday decisions and relationships?*

## ✧ BIG IDEA 2 ✧

### Spiritual Growth Happens Intentionally Through a Relationship With Christ

[Mark 1:18–20](#)

The disciples responded immediately when Jesus called them (**Mark 1:18–20**). Their decision was not the end of discipleship but the beginning of a lifelong journey of growth. A disciple is also a *learner* or *pupil*. Following Jesus leads to ongoing transformation over time.

Every disciple remains a work in progress. Spiritual maturity does not happen instantly, and no believer fully arrives on this side of eternity. Growth requires humility, consistency, and dependence on God ([James 4:6–10](#)). In many areas of life, people understand the value of continual growth. Athletes continue practicing. Musicians continue rehearsing. Teachers continue studying. In the same way, healthy disciples intentionally pursue growth in their relationship with Christ throughout life ([1 Timothy 4:7–8](#)).

Purposeful spiritual growth moves discipleship beyond a weekly event or classroom experience. Following Jesus shapes everyday life. As believers spend time in **Scripture, prayer, worship, and daily obedience**, biblical truth begins shaping their conversations, decisions, attitudes, and relationships. Growth becomes visible over time ([Galatians 5:22–23](#)).

Many people feel intimidated by the idea of influencing others spiritually because they assume they must have all the answers first. Yet discipleship often happens through honest conversations about what God is teaching us right now. Believers encourage others by sharing what they are learning, where they struggle, and how God continues shaping their lives. Authentic growth speaks louder than perfection.

Paul encouraged believers to practice what they had learned and observed in his life ([Philippians 4:9](#)). Although Paul never claimed perfection, he consistently pursued Christ and encouraged others to do the same ([Philippians 3:12–14](#)).

**Purposeful growth also requires time in God’s Word.** Healthy disciples regularly engage Scripture, not merely to complete a reading plan, but to know Christ more deeply and allow His truth to shape their thinking. Even a short passage read prayerfully and thoughtfully can transform a person’s perspective and response to life. Scripture does not simply increase knowledge; it transforms hearts ([Hebrews 4:12](#)).

**Prayer also plays a vital role in purposeful growth.** Prayer keeps disciples dependent on God rather than self-sufficient. As believers pray, God reveals



#### AH 6-3

AH 6-3 (*Where Should I Start Reading the Bible?*) provides practical starting points to help group members engage Scripture and grow in their relationship with Christ. Give each learner a copy to encourage continued Bible reading throughout the week.

## Apologetics

Jesus did not call powerful rulers or famous scholars to change the world. He called ordinary people—fishermen, tax collectors, and laborers—to follow Him. Yet those same disciples eventually faced persecution, imprisonment, and even death rather than deny what they believed about Jesus ([Acts 4:18–20](#)). People might suffer for something they mistakenly believe is true, but few willingly suffer or die for something they know is false.

The disciples' transformed lives and bold witness provide strong evidence that they truly believed Jesus rose from the dead. Jesus still changes lives today as ordinary people follow Him and help others do the same.

areas that need surrender, encourages weary hearts, and strengthens faith for daily living ([Ephesians 3:16–19](#)).

**Disciples also need mentors and spiritual community.** Growth rarely happens in isolation. Every believer benefits from trusted people who offer encouragement, accountability, wisdom, and perspective. Mature Christians still need other mature believers speaking truth into their lives. Every generation needs faithful believers walking beside them ([Titus 2:1–8](#)).

Jesus never called His followers to remain spiritually stagnant. Just as He called the disciples to leave their nets and follow Him, He continues shaping believers to become more like Him day by day.

**Live It Out:** Choose one intentional step that can help you grow spiritually this week. Spend additional time in Scripture, strengthen a prayer habit, connect with a mentor, or encourage another believer in their faith journey.

### Discuss Together:

- *Why does spiritual growth require intentionality rather than passive belief?*
- *Which spiritual habits most help believers grow in their relationship with Christ?*
- *Why is spiritual community important for continued growth as a disciple?*
- *How can discipleship become more than a once-a-week activity?*

## ✧ BIG IDEA 3 ✧

### Healthy Disciples Help Others Follow Jesus and Grow in Their Faith

[Mark 1:17b](#)

When Jesus called His first disciples, He immediately connected following Him with influencing others. Using their profession as an illustration, Jesus told them they would fish for people (**Mark 1:17b**). From the very beginning, discipleship was never meant to stop with personal spiritual growth. **Following Jesus includes helping others follow Him as well.**

People naturally share experiences that impact their lives. Someone who discovers a great restaurant recommends it to friends. A person who finds a helpful book or meaningful opportunity wants others to benefit as well. In the same way, a growing relationship with Christ produces a desire to help others know Him too ([John 1:40–42](#)).

Simon and Andrew were ordinary fishermen when Jesus called them. They were not religious celebrities or trained scholars. Yet Jesus saw how their lives could influence others when surrendered to Him. Simon would eventually be called Peter, one of the central leaders of the early church ([Acts 2:14–41](#)).

Many believers first come to Christ because they recognize the emptiness of sin, the brokenness of life, or the need for hope. As they follow Jesus, they grow in their understanding of Him as Savior, Redeemer, and Lord. Jesus continues shaping believers throughout that journey, and He often works through them to help others know Him as well ([2 Corinthians 5:17–20](#)).

Paul modeled intentional influence when he invited people to follow his example as he followed Christ ([1 Corinthians 11:1](#)). Rather than pointing people to himself, Paul pointed them to Jesus through the way he lived ([Philippians 3:17](#)). Healthy disciples understand that influence often happens through consistency, humility, service, encouragement, and everyday faithfulness.

Discipleship was never designed to remain private or isolated. Christianity spread across the Roman Empire because ordinary believers faithfully shared the gospel, invested in others, and lived transformed lives. Even through persecution, hardship, and resistance, believers continued making disciples because they believed Jesus was worth following and worth sharing ([2 Timothy 2:2–3](#)).

The first disciples lived with conviction, courage, and purpose. Because they faithfully passed their faith to others, the gospel spread across generations and around the world.

That responsibility now rests with believers today. Every Christian influences someone. Parents influence children. Grandparents influence families. Friends influence friends. Church members influence younger believers. Teachers, coaches, neighbors, and coworkers all shape the lives of others through their words and example ([Deuteronomy 6:6–7](#); [Titus 2:1–8](#)). The question is not whether believers have influence but how they are using it.

Healthy disciples intentionally create opportunities to encourage others spiritually. Sometimes influence happens through sharing the gospel directly. Other times it happens through mentoring, listening, praying, serving, or walking beside someone during a difficult season. God often uses consistent relational investment to shape lasting faith across generations.

Discipleship flourishes when believers intentionally influence others toward Christ.

## Go Deeper

Rome ruled the world when Jesus called His disciples, and most of the disciples were ordinary men with little influence or power. Conditions for travel and communication were less than ideal, even though greatly enhanced by the Roman system of roads. It would have been easy to focus only on survival and remain isolated within their own communities. Yet those first followers faithfully shared the gospel and made disciples wherever they went. Christianity continued to spread because believers refused to keep their faith private. That same mission continues today as believers intentionally help others follow Christ.

## D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

# D6

## Principle

Discipleship was never meant to be limited to the church building or a weekly Bible study. God designed faith to be lived out and passed down within the home ([Deuteronomy 6:6–7](#)). Parents, grandparents, and families play a vital role in helping the next generation follow Jesus daily through conversations, prayer, encouragement, and consistent example. The home is often the first and most influential place where discipleship begins.



### AYG-6

As You Go (AYG-6) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. As You Go is also available for FREE download at [D6curriculum.com/bonus](https://D6curriculum.com/bonus). (No password required.)

**Live It Out:** Identify one person God may be inviting you to influence spiritually. It could be a family member, coworker, classmate, neighbor, or fellow church member. Pray for that person this week and look for one practical opportunity to encourage, serve, or invest in that person's faith journey.

### Discuss Together:

- *Why do you think Jesus connected discipleship with influencing others?*
- *What differences do you see between the disciples' commitment to Jesus and the way discipleship is often practiced today?*
- *How can believers influence others without pretending to be perfect?*
- *What are some practical ways believers can intentionally invest in others spiritually?*

## Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

**FOLLOWING JESUS MORE DEEPLY:** Encourage group members to identify one area of life that has not fully come under Christ's leadership. Challenge them to spend time in prayer this week asking God to help them surrender that area to Him and trust Him more fully in daily life.

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH:** Encourage learners to choose and practice one intentional habit that can strengthen their walk with Christ this week. Suggestions might include spending additional time in Scripture, strengthening a prayer habit, reconnecting with a mentor, or inviting another believer to encourage and challenge their spiritual growth.

**INVESTING IN OTHERS:** Ask group members to identify one person who may need encouragement, spiritual direction, or a deeper relationship with Christ. Challenge them to look for one practical opportunity this week to invest in that person through prayer, conversation, service, encouragement, or sharing what God is teaching them.

## Notes:

LESSON 7  
OCTOBER 18, 2026

FAMILY THEME

# What Good Is Christianity?

## LESSON AIM

Understand how Christianity provides the foundation for truth, goodness, and beauty, and why it leads to human flourishing.

## STUDY TEXT

[John 14:6; Luke 6:43–44](#)



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)



## BIG IDEAS

1. **Christianity Provides the Foundation for Truth About Reality**  
([Romans 1:18–20](#); [Isaiah 1:18](#))
2. **Christianity Provides the Foundation for Goodness and Righteous Living**  
([Psalm 34:8](#); [Romans 2:14–15](#))
3. **Christianity Provides the Foundation for Beauty and a Beautiful Life**  
([Psalm 27:4](#); [John 10:10](#))

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Colossians 2:6–7**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance.  
Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.



AH 7-1



AH 7-2

## Leader Lens

This lesson covers big ideas, but don't feel pressured to explain everything in depth.

Focus on the big picture:

Christianity provides truth, goodness, and beauty. Use clear, simple examples rather than technical explanations.

Consider bringing visual or cultural illustrations, such as images of hospitals, Christian charities, the Sistine Chapel, or works like *The Lord of the Rings*, to help learners see the real-world impact of Christianity.

The goal is to help group members understand the difference Christianity makes in everyday life.

## Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

**VIDEO:** Consider showing this video that illustrates the good that Christianity is doing in the world: [tinyurl.com/D6BigLeague](https://tinyurl.com/D6BigLeague). Discuss the video with group members. Can they think of other ways the love of Jesus is changing the world? After discussion, say, *Christianity has changed the world. Today we'll examine its effect on truth, goodness, and beauty.*

**CONVERSATION STARTER:** Ask your group, *If you had to define a "good life," what would you include?* Write a few responses on the board (truth, relationships, purpose, beauty, etc.). After discussion, say, *The ideas of truth, goodness, and beauty are central to Christianity. Today we'll explore why.*

**STORY:** Briefly tell a short story about a historical figure like William Wilberforce (abolition of slavery) or a missionary who made a difference through faith. Then ask, *What motivated this person to do what they did?* After discussion, say, *Today we'll explore how Christian belief has shaped actions like these, and what that reveals about truth, goodness, and beauty.*

## Teaching the Truth

Distribute copies of the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 7-2).

### Gospel Connection

This lesson highlights the goodness in the world that has often resulted from Christianity. The Bible reminds us that true goodness ultimately comes from God, and none of us perfectly live up to His standard. Jesus not only taught what is good, but He lived it perfectly. Through His death and resurrection, He makes a way for us to be forgiven and restored. The life we were created for is found not in human effort, but in a relationship with Him.

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life ([John 14:6](#)). He taught that we would know a tree by its fruit ([Luke 6:43–44](#); cf. [Matthew 7:15–20; 12:33](#)). One way to test the truth claims of Christianity is to evaluate its fruit over time. Where Christianity has been genuinely believed and practiced, it has produced more fruit reflecting the ideals of truth, goodness, and beauty for human flourishing than any other historical phenomenon.

## ✧ BIG IDEA 1 ✧

### Christianity Provides the Foundation for Truth About Reality

[Romans 1:18–20](#); [Isaiah 1:18](#)

Christianity establishes the foundation for the intellectual ideal of truth. *God is truth*, and all truth is God's truth. God shows Himself to humanity as Creator. The heavens declare the glory of God ([Psalm 19:1](#)), and creation provides a visible witness to His existence and divine nature (**Romans 1:18–20**).

The incredible growth of scientific knowledge over the past century has not weakened belief in a Creator but has, in many ways, strengthened it. Fields such as cosmology, microbiology, and biochemistry continue to reveal the complexity and order of the universe. The Bible teaches that all reality was created out of nothing (creation *ex nihilo*; [Genesis 1:1](#)), a concept consistent with modern scientific understanding of the universe's beginning.

**Live It Out:** Recognize that Christianity provides a reliable foundation for truth, helping people understand reality and live with clarity and confidence.

#### Discuss Together:

- *Why does it matter that truth is rooted in God rather than personal opinion or culture?*
- *How does confusion about truth affect the way people make decisions or live their lives?*

The New Testament provides us with a further revelation of God's truth in the person of Jesus Christ. There is overwhelming historical evidence not only that Jesus existed, but that He was who He claimed to be—the Messiah, the Son of God, and God in the flesh ([Matthew 16:16](#); [John 1:14](#); [John 20:31](#); [Colossians 2:9](#)). Using the same historiographical methods applied to other ancient figures, we can examine the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus through the eyewitness testimony preserved in the New Testament documents. In addition, Jewish, Roman, and early Christian sources outside the Bible provide further support for the reliability of these accounts. Based on this historical evidence, we can have strong confidence in the Bible's testimony about Jesus. If the historical evidence about Jesus is not acceptable, the standard of proof would be so high no other person from ancient history could pass the test.

God invites us to reason together with Him (**Isaiah 1:18**) and calls us to be prepared to give a reason for our hope ([1 Peter 3:15](#)). Christianity is not some radical religion, blind faith, or irrational belief. It is a worldview grounded in truth that welcomes hard questions, encourages thoughtful investigation, and stands

## Apologetics

Christianity teaches that truth is grounded in the nature of God. Because God is truth, reality is knowable and consistent, making reason, science, and logic possible. A world grounded in truth allows people to pursue knowledge, make wise decisions, and live with clarity and purpose.

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 7-1) and PowerPoint 7 (editable).



PowerPoint 7

up to careful examination. The Bible has been studied, tested, and examined more than any other ancient book. Through textual study, archaeology, and historical research, its reliability has been consistently affirmed. Thus, the Bible remains the foundational text of Western civilization despite its critics.

Taken together, the witness of creation, the person of Jesus Christ, and the truth of Scripture provide a strong foundation for understanding reality. These truths also help explain why modern science developed within a culture shaped by a belief in a rational Creator.

**Live It Out:** Be prepared to explain how Christianity not only claims truth but has shaped the world in meaningful and lasting ways.

**Discuss Together:**

- *How has Christianity's view of truth influenced areas like science, education, and culture?*
- *Why does it matter that Christianity encourages both faith and reason?*

## ✧ BIG IDEA 2 ✧

### Christianity Provides the Foundation for Goodness and Righteous Living

[Psalms 34:8; Romans 2:14–15](#)

Not only is Christianity true, but it is also *good*. Christianity provides a foundation for the moral ideal of goodness because God Himself is good. Here we not only learn what is true, but we also experience the *goodness* of God. Scripture invites us to *taste* and see that the Lord is good (**Psalms 34:8**).

While the sciences describe how the world works, our human *conscience* reveals the moral law and how we ought to live. Every person has an awareness of right and wrong and a sense of moral responsibility. Scripture teaches that God has written His moral law on the human heart, and our conscience bears witness to Him (**Romans 2:14–15**). Human laws may be written on paper, but only a perfectly good God could inscribe a moral law within every person. This moral law is universally binding on all peoples, cultures, and nations regardless of time or place. This shared awareness points to God as the source of goodness.

**Live It Out:** Recognize that God's standard of right and wrong provides a foundation for how people live, make decisions, and relate to one another.

### Discuss Together:

- *Why is it important for people and societies to have a shared understanding of right and wrong? What does Romans 2:15 tell us about that shared understanding?*
- *How does God's standard of goodness shape the way people treat one another in everyday life?*

God's goodness is most clearly seen in Jesus Christ, who perfectly embodies the standard of righteousness for humanity. Through His life and teaching—and through the work of the Holy Spirit—Christians are called to live out goodness in the world as people of God.

Across history, Christianity has produced more moral good for the world than any other system of belief or practice. People all over the world, even those who do not profess Christianity, look to the character and teachings of Jesus as the ultimate ideal for humanity. Consider what the world would be like without the following biblical moral principles:

- Love your neighbor as you love yourself ([Matthew 22:39](#)).
- Treat others as you would want them to treat you ([Luke 6:31](#)).
- Consider others as more important than yourself and look to their interests ([Philippians 2:3–4](#)).
- Care for the poor, the sick, and those in need ([Matthew 25:35–36](#)).
- Defend the widow and the orphan ([James 1:27](#); [Psalm 82:3](#)).
- Forgive those who wrong you ([Matthew 6:14–15](#); [Colossians 3:13](#)).

These ethical ideals were not conceived in the heights of ancient Greek philosophy, Roman law, or Enlightenment treatises and secular humanist manifestos. Rather, they originated from the Judeo-Christian worldview, exemplified first in Jesus Christ, and then emulated by His followers through the Holy Spirit.

It is due to the incomparable goodness of Christ that Christianity has been responsible for uniquely gifting to the world hospitals, orphanages, missions, charitable organizations, universities, education for all, the abolition of slavery, the uplifting of women, the special status and protection of children, individual freedom, democracy, the equality of all humans as created in the image of God, among many other tangible moral goods. The uniqueness of Christianity's contributions to the world for good is a fact so well established that it is even acknowledged by many nonbelieving intellectuals and scholars, including notable thinkers like Jordan Peterson and Ayaan Hirsi Ali, the latter of whom recently converted to the Christian faith!

What about the bad things Christians have done? At times, people point to the failures of Christians as evidence against Christianity. Examining things



### AH 7-3

The AH 7-3 Handout (*What Good Has Christianity Done?*) gives group members an overview of this lesson and the contributions Christianity has made to society.

## Go Deeper

Atheist and author Richard Dawkins recently called himself a “cultural Christian.” While he made it clear he is not a Bible-believing Christian, he explained that society functions better when Christian principles like kindness and decency are foundational. While Dawkins continues to miss the bigger picture of an all-powerful God, his words show that the tenets of Christianity and the fruit of the Spirit make our world a better place. This should not be surprising to the Christian for we know God's ways are best.

like religious wars and slavery, it is true that many have done terrible things in the name of Christ. What all these tragic cases share in common is that they fundamentally cut against the grain of the perfect example and teachings of Jesus Himself. The perpetrators acted contrary to, not in accordance with, Jesus' teachings. Those failures do not reflect the goodness of Christ but our failure to follow Him.

Here is the ironic twist for the skeptic: it is only by the perfect standard of the goodness of Christ that we can recognize injustice and call it wrong. Even the evil of the world reveals the goodness of God for it requires the goodness of God to judge that these things are evil. Critiques of Christianity borrow from the moral teachings of Christianity to condemn evil. This counts in Christianity's favor, not against it. In addition, in nearly all the cases of Christians behaving badly, it was Christians behaving in Christlike fashion who stood up and spoke out, eventually bringing an end to the bad behavior.

In Christ alone, we see a moral goodness that we all fail to live up to. When we hunger and thirst for righteousness, justice, and goodness for mankind, we must look to Christ and His moral influence on individuals and society. The moral outcry we feel against the pain, suffering, and evil in the world finds a consoling voice crying out from the cross: *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?* ([Mark 15:34](#)). On the cross, we see the goodness of God on full display in Christ's atonement for the sins of the world ([John 3:16](#)).

**Live It Out:** Reflect the goodness of Christ by intentionally showing compassion, justice, and care to others.

**Discuss Together:**

- *What would everyday life look like if the moral teachings of Jesus were ignored or removed from society? How does this show us that God's ways are best?*
- *As Christians, what is our responsibility when it comes to reflecting God's goodness and responding to injustice?*

✧ **BIG IDEA 3** ✧

**Christianity Provides the Foundation for  
Beauty and a Beautiful Life**

[Psalm 27:4; John 10:10](#)

Finally, not only is Christianity true and good, but it is also *beautiful*. Christianity provides the basis for the ideal of beauty, for *God is the source of all beauty*. Scripture speaks of the beauty of the Lord and invites us to behold it (**Psalm 27:4**). Genuine Christian belief and practice make for a beautiful life, for the individual and for society.

The cultural fruit of Christianity is unparalleled in terms of the beauty it has inspired and cultivated. Whereas the thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy, Jesus came that we might have an abundant life ([John 10:10](#)), reflecting the beauty and order God has woven into creation ([Ecclesiastes 3:11](#)). Christianity has made exceptional contributions to the development of human life and culture, including contributions to science, health and medicine, education and literacy, freedom and democracy, civil rights, economics and industry, marriage, sexuality, the family, and the arts. Christianity has been the rising tide that lifts all boats.

Consider just one brief example—the arts. Whether it be literature, poetry, music, sculpture, or painting, the greatest works of art have been either created by Christians or motivated by Christian themes and motifs. Christianity raised the aesthetic bar, breathing new life and inspiration into arts and artists, creating a level of beauty unlike anything humanity has ever experienced. A world without Christianity is a world without Michelangelo’s *David* or *Sistine Chapel*, da Vinci’s *The Last Supper*, Bach’s cantatas, the works of Shakespeare or Dante, Tolkien’s *The Lord of the Rings*, etc. Christianity has touched all aspects of the world and culture. From the poetry of the Psalms to the wisdom of Proverbs, Scripture itself reflects a beauty that has shaped the human imagination for centuries, giving us the greatest story ever told.

**Live It Out:** Recognize that true beauty is rooted in God and shapes how we understand meaning, purpose, and the fullness of life.

**Discuss Together:**

- *What are some examples of beauty in the world that point beyond themselves to something greater? Why are people drawn to beauty, meaning, and purpose in life?*
- *How does a biblical understanding of beauty differ from the idea that “beauty is in the eye of the beholder”?*

Truth, goodness, and beauty are ideals universally desired by mankind. In actuality, they represent attributes of the Triune God, revealed in Jesus Christ who declares Himself to be the way, the truth, and the life ([John 14:6](#)). Jesus is God *in the flesh*, the incarnation or embodiment of God, and this is evident in all the ways He continues to transform lives and shape the world. Looking through the lens of Christianity, we see Christ’s matchless impact and the real difference faith in Him makes for people’s lives and communities. Wherever the gospel of Jesus Christ has taken root in the human heart, Christianity—through the power of the Holy Spirit—has uniquely exemplified these ideals and promoted human flourishing more so than any other phenomenon in the history of the world.

## D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

## D6

### Principle

As you encounter “as you go” moments, help your children recognize God’s truth, goodness, and beauty in the world around them. Point out moments of kindness, justice, and beauty, and connect them to God’s character. These conversations help children see that faith is not just something we believe, but something that shapes how we live.

## Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.



AH 7-4



AYG-7

As You Go (AYG-7) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. As You Go is also available for FREE download at [D6curriculum.com/bonus](https://D6curriculum.com/bonus). (No password required.)

**Live It Out:** Pursue a beautiful life by reflecting Christ's character in your attitudes, actions, and relationships this week.

### Discuss Together:

- *How does following Jesus reshape what we see as meaningful or fulfilling in life?*
- *What is one practical way you can bring beauty, hope, or restoration into someone's life this week?*

## Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

**SHARING ONE'S FAITH:** Encourage group members to share with a friend, coworker, or family member one way Christianity brings truth, goodness, or beauty into the world. Challenge them to look for an opportunity this week to explain how their faith in Jesus shapes how they see life and gives hope. Remind them that sharing their faith can be as simple as starting a conversation and pointing to what Christ has done.

**FAITH IN ACTION:** Challenge group members to identify one practical way they can reflect the goodness of Christ this week—showing compassion, meeting a need, or standing for what is right. Encourage them to think of a specific person they can serve and take intentional action. At your next gathering, invite them to share how they saw God use that step of obedience.

**REFLECTION:** Encourage group members to reflect on how following Jesus brings meaning, purpose, and beauty to life. Ask them to spend time this week noticing where God's goodness and beauty are evident—in creation, relationships, or everyday moments. Then challenge them to intentionally bring encouragement, hope, or restoration into someone's life in a tangible way. The AH 7-4 Handout (*The Goodness and Beauty of God*) provides ten ideas for noticing the goodness and beauty of God in everyday life.

## Notes:

LESSON 8  
OCTOBER 25, 2026

FAMILY THEME

# How to Study and Live Out the Bible

LESSON AIM

Understand how to engage, interpret, and apply  
God's Word in everyday life.

STUDY TEXT

[Psalm 119:1-42](#)



Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)



## BIG IDEAS

1. **Consistent Engagement With God's Word Leads to Understanding** ([Psalm 119:1-16](#))
2. **Healthy Curiosity in God's Word Leads to Deeper Understanding and Growth** ([Psalm 119:17-18](#))
3. **Genuine Fellowship in God's Word Leads to Growth and Faithfulness** ([Psalm 119:19-42](#))

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Colossians 2:6–7**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance.  
Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.



AH 8-1



AH 8-2



AH 8-3

## Leader Lens

This lesson is more practical than exegetical. Rather than walking verse-by-verse through Psalm 119, focus on helping your group understand *how* to engage with God's Word. You may choose to read selected verses highlighted in each Big Idea instead of the entire passage to keep the lesson moving. Look for opportunities to model what you are teaching. Ask questions, invite participation, and demonstrate how to observe, understand, and apply a passage. The goal is not just to explain Scripture, but to help your group grow more confident in studying it on their own.

## Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

**VIDEO:** Show this video in which the Creation Museum traces the different forms the Bible has taken throughout the centuries and its importance to believing communities: [tinyurl.com/D6Creation](https://tinyurl.com/D6Creation). Then say, *Today we'll explore why the Bible matters, and how we can better understand and engage with it.*

**STORY:** Share the following story with your group: In *The Hiding Place*, Corrie ten Boom tells how she and her family helped Jews escape the Nazis during World War II. After being arrested, Corrie and her sister Betsie were sent to the Ravensbrück concentration camp. Despite strict searches, Corrie was able to smuggle a Bible into the camp. Remarkably, the guards avoided entering their living area because of a severe flea infestation, allowing Corrie and Betsie to read Scripture and even lead Bible studies with other prisoners. Ask your group, *If you were in that situation, what would you consider essential? Why do you think Corrie risked so much to bring a Bible? After discussion, say, Today we'll explore why God's Word is so valuable, and how we can engage with it more intentionally.*

**OBJECT LESSON:** Bring a simple item with instructions (e.g., a board game, small appliance, LEGO® set). Ask your group, *Would you try to use this without reading the instructions? After a few responses, say, Many people approach the Bible the same way. They try to use it without taking time to understand it. Then ask, Why do instructions matter? What happens when we ignore them? After discussion, say, Today we'll learn how to better understand and engage with God's Word.*

## Teaching the Truth

Distribute the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 8-2) and display the AH 8-3 (*Studying the Bible*) poster.

### Gospel Connection

This lesson explores how to study the Bible, but we do so with a greater purpose in mind. The Bible is one unified story of God's plan to redeem humanity through Jesus Christ. Every part of Scripture points to Him—either preparing for His coming, revealing His life and work, or showing how we are to live in response to the gospel. As we study the Bible, we are not just learning information—we are coming to know Christ more fully.

With portions of it translated into over 4,000 languages and distributions of over six billion copies, some version of the Bible is accessible to much of the world's population.

For centuries the Bible has taken a central role in the lives of Christians, particularly within their church services. Writing in the second century, Justin Martyr described one of those early church services in his *First Apology*: “And on the day called Sunday, all who live in cities or in the country gather together to one place, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read . . . then, when the reader has ceased, the president verbally instructs, and exhorts to the imitation of these good things.”

Even though the Bible is central to the Christian life, it can sometimes feel difficult to understand. With Scripture more accessible today than ever before, personal Bible study is essential for a growing disciple. Thankfully, God has not left us without help. Through His Word and by the guidance of the Holy Spirit ([John 14:26](#)), He has given us practical ways to grow in understanding: consistent engagement, healthy curiosity, and genuine fellowship.

## ✧ BIG IDEA 1 ✧

### Consistent Engagement With God’s Word Leads to Understanding

#### [Psalm 119:1–16](#)

To many, the idea of Bible study is daunting because it centers on reading. In this ever-changing, technological world, people are increasingly consuming information through audio and video rather than the printed word. Bible reading remains a vital discipline for every Christ-follower, but thinking in terms of *Bible intake* or *engagement* can help broaden how we approach God’s Word.

As you read through the “Mount Everest” of the Psalms (Psalm 119), notice how often the psalmist engaged with God’s Word. In the first 16 verses alone, we see no fewer than six different ways the psalmist engaged with the Law of God. He walked according to it or was guided by it (**verses 1–5, 8–9**). He examined or searched it (**verses 6, 15**). In **verses 7 and 12**, he praised God because of what he learned from it. He memorized it (**verses 11, 16**). He spoke about it with others (**verse 13**). He meditated on God’s Word (**verse 15**). These examples highlight that engaging with Scripture involves more than simply reading. It includes *reflecting*, *remembering*, *speaking*, and *responding*.

The author of Psalm 119 is not identified, and while some have suggested figures like Ezra, Scripture does not name a specific author. What is clear, however, is the psalmist’s deep commitment to God’s Word and his desire to understand and obey it.

### Apologetics: Why Trust the Bible?

The Bible is not just a collection of ancient writings. It is God’s inspired Word ([2 Timothy 3:16](#)). Written by more than 40 authors over 1,500 years, it presents a unified message centered on God’s plan of redemption through Jesus Christ. The Bible has also been remarkably preserved. The New Testament alone is supported by thousands of early manuscripts—far more than any other ancient document—and they consistently communicate the same message. In addition, the Bible demonstrates historical accuracy and fulfilled prophecy, especially in its detailed predictions about the life and work of Jesus. Because Scripture is trustworthy, we can study it with confidence, knowing it reveals truth that transforms our lives.

## Go Deeper: A Simple Way to Study the Bible

Remind your group that studying the Bible is not just about reading but understanding and responding. Walk them through a simple three-step process:

### Observe

Slow down and notice what the passage actually says. Observe key words, repeated ideas, and who is speaking.

### Understand

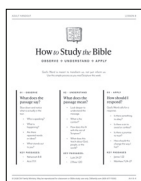
Consider what the passage means by looking at the surrounding verses, the broader context of the passage, and how it fits within the rest of Scripture.

### Apply

Ask how God wants us to respond. Bible study is not complete until it shapes how we think and live. A helpful way to remember this process is:

**Observe → Understand  
→ Apply.**

You can find a detailed guide on **AH 8-4 (How to Study the Bible)**. Make sure every group member has a copy.



**AH 8-4**

[Nehemiah 8](#) provides a helpful picture of this kind of engagement. After the exile, Ezra read the Law of God to the people from morning until noon. Additionally, Ezra appointed the Levites to move among the people to help them understand what was being read (verses 7–8). It was not enough to only hear or read the Word of God. Understanding it often involves *explanation*, *discussion*, and *community interaction*. It also involves dependence on the Holy Spirit, who guides believers into truth and helps them understand God’s Word ([John 14:26](#)).

Research continues to affirm the value of consistent engagement with Scripture. In *Backward Discipleship*, Dr. Ron Hunter Jr. highlights the “Power of 4”—the idea that engaging with Scripture four or more times per week leads to significantly greater spiritual growth, while sporadic engagement (one to three times per week) shows little difference from not reading at all.<sup>1</sup> Make sure to share this information with the group before moving into the discussion questions.

**Live It Out:** Engage with God’s Word consistently this week. Aim for four or more times and explore different ways of interacting with Scripture.

### Discuss Together:

- *What is your go-to method of engaging with the Bible? Why does it work for you?*
- *Which form of Bible engagement—reading, listening, memorizing, or discussing—would you like to grow in?*
- *What are some common obstacles that keep people from engaging with Scripture regularly? How can those be overcome?*
- *What difference might it make in your life to engage with Scripture four or more times each week?*

## ✧ BIG IDEA 2 ✧

### Healthy Curiosity in God’s Word Leads to Deeper Understanding and Growth

[Psalm 119:17–18](#)

Spiritual curiosity has been a driving force behind believers going deeper in God’s Word. When faced with philosophical or historical questions about the Bible, many Christians are led to search Scripture for answers. Reflecting on the promises of the new creation can lead someone to study passages about Heaven and the kingdom of God more deeply.

<sup>1</sup> Ron Hunter Jr., *Backward Discipleship* (D6 Family Ministry, 2026), 54.

Remaining inquisitive about many of the “mysteries” of the faith is important. In **Psalm 119:17–18**, the psalmist prayed that the Lord would extend his life so he could live and continue to obey His Word. He also asked that God would open his eyes to see *wondrous things* in His Law. Even though he had dedicated his life to God’s Word, these requests show that the psalmist still longed to grow in his understanding.

For Christians who are well acquainted with the Bible, there is a real danger of believing they have “heard it all before” and will not discover anything new. However, a true student of God’s Word shares the psalmist’s desire to see wondrous things in it. The difference is that one has cultivated a healthy curiosity about what God’s Word teaches, while the other becomes content with spiritual milk rather than moving toward maturity ([1 Corinthians 3:2](#)).

Remaining curious about what the Bible teaches reflects a high view of Scripture as *living and active* ([Hebrews 4:12](#)). Similar to how a curious child might ask questions of his or her parents or others in authority, believers should approach God’s Word with a desire to *ask, seek, and understand*.

This kind of curiosity should be encouraged among Christians of all ages. In the *Elements Kids Worship* curriculum from D6 Family Ministry, Pastor Steve regularly encourages children to read a verse of Scripture and ask two simple questions: “What does this verse say?” and “What does this verse say to me?”

More mature believers can build on this practice by asking additional questions during personal study, such as:

- Does this passage of Scripture teach me something about God, myself, or this world?
- Do these verses help me understand history, encourage my walk with the Lord, or lead me to hope in God’s promise to restore all things?
- Is there someone in my life that I can encourage or help with what I have learned?
- How might this passage be understood by believers in difficult or persecuted contexts?

Similarly, believers can look for commands to obey, promises to trust, sins to avoid or confess, examples to follow, and warnings to heed.

When children are curious, they turn to a trusted authority. Christians should remain inquisitive about God’s Word and seek answers within its truth.

Discussion questions are included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 8-1) and PowerPoint 8 (editable).



**PowerPoint 8**

**Live It Out:** Take time this week to pause during your Bible reading and ask questions that help you understand, apply, and respond to God's Word.

**Discuss Together:**

- *Of all the topics or events in Scripture, which ones make you most curious? Why?*
- *What are some helpful questions you can ask as you study the Bible to better understand and apply it?*
- *Many Christians express concerns when people ask hard questions about the Bible. Do you see these questions as a crisis of faith or an opportunity for God's Word to prove itself?*
- *How might asking more questions during your Bible study change the way you understand and apply God's Word?*

✱ **BIG IDEA 3** ✱

**Genuine Fellowship in God's Word Leads to Growth and Faithfulness**

[Psalm 119:19–42](#)

God never intended for engagement with His Word to remain private. Throughout Scripture, we see that believers grow best in community, encouraging and strengthening one another through God's Word.

Beginning in **Psalm 119:19** and continuing throughout the rest of the psalm, the psalmist expressed both his devotion to God's Word and the challenges he faced from those who oppose it. He described himself as a *stranger* or *sojourner on the earth* (**verse 19**). In **verse 23**, he recorded that rulers threatened him because he lived by the standard of Scripture. In **verses 41–42**, he prayed for mercy in understanding God's Word so that he would have an answer for those who taunted him for his trust in Scripture. His commitment to God's Word was not merely personal. It was lived out in the presence of others and often in the face of opposition.

In the New Testament and today, God has provided believers with the gift of the local church—a community where God's Word is taught, shared, and applied together. While fellowship is often associated with sharing meals, it is more in line with sharing spiritual nourishment. As Paul instructed Timothy, believers are to devote themselves to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, and to teaching ([1 Timothy 4:13](#)). Through these practices, the church is strengthened and grows together. In fact, Paul even said that faithful teaching and careful attention to God's Word would save both the teacher and those who are taught ([1 Timothy 4:16](#)).

**Live It Out:** Share something you have learned from God's Word with another believer this week, and invite them to share what they are learning as well.

**Discuss Together:**

- *What are some benefits you have experienced in studying God's Word with other Christians?*
- *What are some ways our group/class can help others feel welcomed or encouraged to study the Bible with us?*
- *Name a few people who have invested in you spiritually. How has their encouragement or teaching helped you grow in your understanding of God's Word?*
- *What is one way you can encourage or support another believer in their walk with God this week?*

## Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

**FAITH AT HOME:** Encourage group members to create space for biblical curiosity in their homes this week. Suggest that they ask their family or roommates what questions they have about the Bible, no matter how big or small. Remind them not to rush to provide answers, but to explore those questions together by reading Scripture, discussing what it means, and modeling how to study God's Word with patience and humility.

**SHARING ONE'S FAITH:** Recent studies have shown that Millennials who do not attend church are still more interested in what goes on in the Christian faith than their generational counterparts. People are spiritually hungry. Encourage group members to be intentional about sharing what they are learning from Scripture. Challenge them to look for a natural opportunity this week to talk with a friend, coworker, or neighbor about something they've discovered in their Bible study. Remind them they don't need to have all the answers. Simply sharing what God is teaching them can open meaningful conversations.

**SERVING THE CHURCH:** Encourage group members to strengthen someone in the church this week by sharing a passage of Scripture that has been meaningful to them. Suggest they send a message, make a call, or speak in person. Remind them that God often uses His Word to encourage and build up others.

## D6

### Principle

God never intended for His Word to be learned only in isolation. Parents are called to lead the way by engaging Scripture personally and sharing it within the home. As you study the Bible, invite your children into the process. Ask questions together, discuss what you're learning, and model what it looks like to follow God's Word. Spiritual growth happens best when families pursue God together in everyday moments.

## D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

## Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.



### AYG-8

As You Go (AYG-8) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. As You Go is also available for FREE download at [D6curriculum.com/bonus](https://d6curriculum.com/bonus). (No password required.)

## Notes:



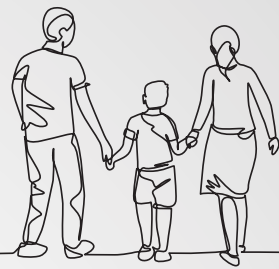
Scan to access  
handouts and  
digital materials  
or visit  
[d6.family/6939](https://d6.family/6939)



# D6 Curriculum

ONE CURRICULUM. EVERY GENERATION.

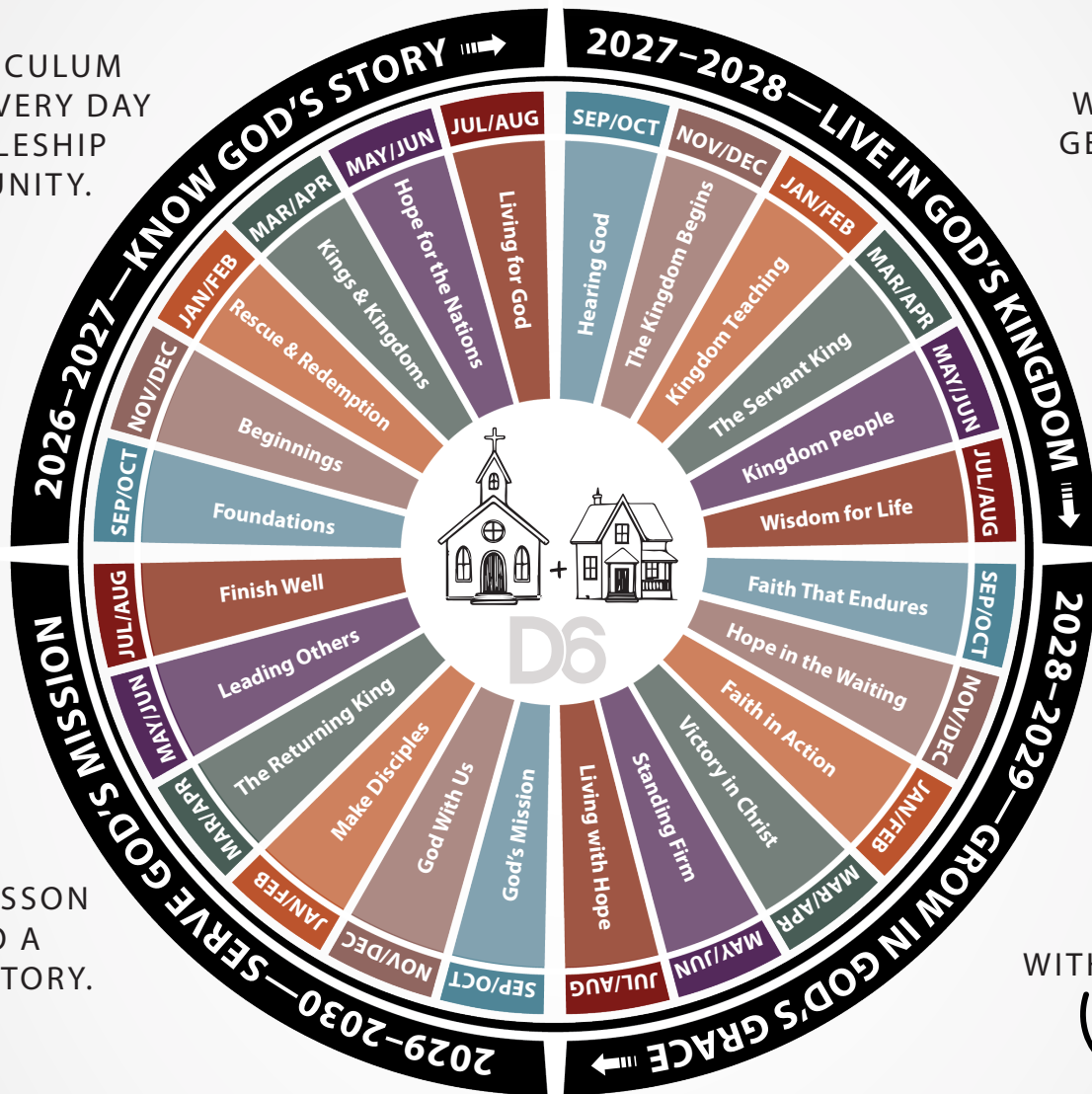
*Built on Scripture. Formed in community. Lived out every day.*



The *D6 Curriculum* four-year Scope & Sequence takes every generation on a journey through Scripture—from Genesis to Revelation—helping learners understand the redeeming story of Christ. Built around apologetics, character studies, biblical themes, and gospel-centered truth, *D6 Curriculum* is more than a lesson plan; it's a discipleship pathway designed to build biblical confidence through six intentional lesson blocks each year.

D6 CURRICULUM  
MAKES EVERY DAY  
A DISCIPLESHIP  
OPPORTUNITY.

DESIGNED  
WITH EVERY  
GENERATION  
IN MIND.



EVERY LESSON  
FITS INTO A  
BIGGER STORY.

SCAN TO  
EXPLORE  
THE FULL  
SCOPE &  
SEQUENCE  
WITH QR CODE



## HERE'S WHAT IS COMING UP

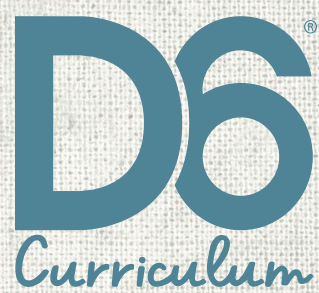
NOV-DEC 2026

| WEEK     | THEME                                  | DISCIPLESHIP OBJECTIVE                                                          | KEY SCRIPTURE           | APOLOGETIC OBJECTIVE                                                    |
|----------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11-1-26  | The Beginning of the World             | God is Creator and everything begins with Him                                   | Genesis 1:1–31          | If God made everything, who made God?                                   |
| 11-8-26  | The Beginning of Sin                   | Sin broke God's good creation and created our need for rescue                   | Genesis 3:1–24          | If God is good, why did He allow sin?                                   |
| 11-15-26 | The Beginning of Judgment & Rescue     | God judges sin but provides a way of rescue                                     | Genesis 6:5–22; 8:15–22 | How could a loving God send a flood?                                    |
| 11-22-26 | The Beginning of Languages             | God opposes pride and fulfills His plan for the nations                         | Genesis 11:1–9          | Why did God confuse the languages?                                      |
| 11-29-26 | The Beginning of God's Promise         | God begins His rescue plan through covenant promise                             | Genesis 12:1–9          | Why did God choose Abraham?                                             |
| 12-6-26  | The Beginning of God's Nation          | God forms and rescues a people for Himself                                      | Exodus 1:1–14; 6:6–7    | Did the Exodus really happen?                                           |
| 12-13-26 | The Beginning of the Promise of a King | God promises a forever King from David's line                                   | 2 Samuel 7:12–16        | How could people know Jesus was coming?                                 |
| 12-20-27 | The Beginning of God With Us           | God came near through Jesus, Immanuel                                           | Luke 2:1–20             | How can Jesus be both God and a baby?                                   |
| 12-27-26 | The Beginning of Godly Habits          | Cultivate habits that help you grow in godliness and build your life on Christ. | Colossians 3:12–17      | If salvation is by grace, why do Christians need spiritual disciplines? |

ORDER HERE



D6CURRICULUM.COM



PRODUCT #801

[D6CURRICULUM.COM](http://D6CURRICULUM.COM)