

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE

*“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” (2 Timothy 3:16)*

### Objectives

<i>Knowledge of God’s Will</i>	The Bible is the living word of God, inspired by Him. It shows us the path to salvation; it is the ultimate guide to living a godly life.
<i>Knowledge of God</i>	God is truth, eternal, and living.
<i>Good Works</i>	The word of God teaches, rebukes, corrects, and trains us in righteousness. Cherish God’s word and apply it to our lives.

### A. The Bible Is the Truth

Despite being written by around forty different authors over the course of more than 1,000 years, the Bible never contradicts itself, and none of its prophecies have been proven untrue.

1. *The Language and the Printed Word:* The Old Testament, New Testament, and various excerpts from the Bible have been translated into over 1,000 languages combined.
2. *How the Bible Maintained Its Accuracy:* Even today, books develop inconsistencies or errors over time. Yet the Bible has maintained its accuracy over the 3,000-year lifespan since its conception. This has only been possible because of God’s guidance.

### B. The Bible Is the Path to Salvation

The Bible has many purposes. It declares the great and wondrous works of God, and also reveals matters transcending human wisdom. But more importantly, the Bible’s purpose is for our sakes.

1. *Calls Mankind to Repentance:* The Bible teaches us that all mankind has sinned, and have fallen short of eternal life (Rom 3:23). But its teachings do not come without hope; it also calls us to repentance in order to find rest for our souls (Jer 6:16).
2. *Leads Us to True Righteousness:* We can only obtain the righteousness of God “through faith in Jesus Christ” (Rom 3:22). It is impossible to become truly righteous on our own, but when we keep the teachings of the Bible, we become skilled in the word of righteousness (Heb 5:13).
3. *Directs Us to the Path of Salvation:* Jesus says, “[If] anyone keeps My word he shall never see death” (Jn 8:51), and the Book of James describes the Scripture as “the implanted word, which is able to save your souls” (Jas 1:21).

### C. The Bible Is Living and Powerful

The Bible has the ability to actively chastise us, guide us, and encourage us as we walk our spiritual journey towards salvation. It is living and powerful because it has the power to change someone’s life.

### Life Application

1. *Hunger for God’s Word:* God desires that we draw closer to Him, but to do so, we must read His word because that is how He speaks to us. When we open ourselves to His instruction, the Bible offers us doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness (2 Tim 3:16).
2. *Seek Time with God:* When we stop reading the Bible or communicating with God, we grow spiritually weak. Our goal should be to know God, grow in our relationship with Him, love Him, and eventually be more like Him. To do so, we need to purposefully set aside time for God every day.

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## Lesson 1 Homework Assignment

### Introduction to the Bible

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse (2 Timothy 3:16):

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1. Briefly explain the different purposes of the Bible mentioned in the memory verse.

2. What is the significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls for us?

3. What are the three primary purposes of the Bible?

4. Pick one of the above purposes and briefly explain, with Bible references.

5. What does it mean to delight in God's word, and to meditate on it day and night?

6. What is one way you plan on seeking out quiet time with God?