

DIGGING DEEPER

Week Two 2021

*“The **Bible** is **one story** that unfolds in **one book**, by **one author**, about **one subject**. A **story** that moves from promise to fulfillment.”*

-Alistair Begg

Whether you are brand new to exploring the Bible or you have read it many times, God’s Word is strong, wise, and applicable for our life situations. The stories in Scripture are the very Words of God written for the people He loves. No matter your age or circumstances, God’s Word is alive and given to each of us to know God and make Him known to the world.

At Northland, we are launching into 2021 with God’s Word as the foundation underneath us. Use your Bible and this simple study guide in your discipleship journey to dig deeper and equip others to be fully alive in Jesus.

Series: Against All Odds. What are some questions, struggles, and challenges you have or have had with the Bible? They are real!

Let’s REVIEW the main points from Week One.

1. Do you remember the four “Big Themes” that Pastor Gus shared from the Scriptures as One Story of the Savior?
2. Read **2 Timothy 3:16-17**. What are the four things the Word of God is useful for?
3. **Memory Verse:** “For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.” (Romans 15:4)

What do you get from this Scripture verse about the “so that” for the One Story of the Bible?

In Week Two we learn Following Jesus Together means we read His Word together. We have introduced and invited you to various resources, tools, and relationships for engaging the Bible. We desire to read it individually, corporately, and in groups. The steps below guide us on how to read, think, pray, and apply the Bible to our lives in all spaces and places. Journaling is highly recommended.

First, pause and pray. Approach God humbly and expectantly to help you understand and receive His Word as you read.

Second, read and think through the passage. Sometimes it's helpful to read the passages before and after to grasp the greater vision. Ask yourself the following questions:

- What is the main point of this scripture?
- What does it reveal about God, Jesus, or the Holy Spirit?
- What insight am I given about myself and my life? Is there an example of a warning to heed and/or a promise to claim?
- What does Christ require of me now, in thought, belief, and behavior?

Third, meditate on the scripture you read and if you're using a study guide or other Bible resource, refer to it for more insights. Reflect on what God has taught you and apply it to the circumstances of your life – situations at work, home, school, church, or elsewhere. Use what you have learned in order to obey and become more like Jesus. Pray again. This time, turn the things you have learned into prayers. Thank God for His greatness and love. Confess your sins. Remember the needs of others. Adore the Lord in His beauty. Go forth and serve with joy.

Lastly, set aside time to practice this method this week with the following Scriptures: Luke 4:1-13; John 1:1-14; and Psalm 119:9-16.

I encourage you to personally repeat the practice above. Share your findings with your family and friends. Then move on to other scriptures using this method. Explore the many Bible resources and study aids out there and discover what is most helpful to you.

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 119:105 “Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.”