



ROUTE 66

“The Bible: God’s Word”

2 Timothy 3:16-17

January 1, 2012 A.M. Service

The Plan

✓ **Route 66 Message Series**

A Message on every book in the Bible in 2012
 Additionally, we will provide you with a weekly
 Scripture Background Guide for every Book

✓ **3D Reading Plan (Digging Deeper Daily 3)**

A brand new chronological reading plan through the
 entire Bible in 2012. (Bibles are available plus a
 Reader’s Guide to purchase and Bookmarks)

✓ **Read the Bible for Life**

New LifeTrak Option beginning Sunday Nights @ 5
 p.m. on January 8th through February 26th lead by
 Brad and Cleve. This will help you read the Bible
 more clearly, understand it better, and also learn
 how to apply it to your daily life.

The Particulars

- ✓ Inspired *2 Peter 1:19-21*
- ✓ Infallible – Inerrant *Psalm 33:4*
- ✓ Immovable & Indestructible *Isaiah 40:8*
- ✓ Instructive *2 Timothy 3:16-17*
- ✓ Inclusive – Complete *Prov. 30:5-6 Rev. 22:18-19*

The Big Picture There is One Story – The Glory of God

- ✓ **Promises Made** The Message of the Old Testament
 - A Particular History

- A Passion for Holiness
- A Promise of Hope

✓ **Promises Kept** The Message of the New Testament

- The Promised Redeemer: Christ
- The Promised Relationship: A New Covenant People
- The Promised Renewal: A New Creation

The Purpose

- ✓ Learn the Word *Ezra 7:10a*
- ✓ Love the Word *Psalm 119:97*
- ✓ Live the Word *Ezra 7:10b; 1 John 2:5*

The Plea

1. Commit to Reading the Word of God every day in 2012 – put aside all your excuses and make the plunge that could forever change your life! Use your Bible or buy one of the chronological ones and purchase the Reader’s Guide to use in your study
2. Commit to being in Worship to hearing these messages from the entire Word of God in 2012
3. Be a part of the of the Winter LifeTraks beginning Sunday, January 8th @ 5 p.m. that will help you get a better grasp on the Bible, how to study, understand, and apply it to your daily life better than ever before!
4. Be willing to share what you learn with others that you come in contact with – don’t just get the Word in you, but also get it out of you!!
5. Be willing to “do” the Word this year through our Micah 6:8 projects. More details will be coming, but much of it will come through your small groups on ways to implement the Word of God right here!!

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2 Timothy 3:16-17

January 1, 2012 AM Service

We begin an exciting journey today and one that I am hoping and praying that you will join. As we ended this last year with a challenging series Not a Fan, the call was clear – will we simply be fan of Jesus or will we be a follower! A Fan admires the Bible, reads it every once in awhile, claims the blessings, while a Fan Learns It, Loves It and Lives It. I am praying that this year you will get in the Word like never before and we are hoping to provide you several ways to go deeper in your faith.

Before we get there – why this series?

Not surprisingly, the Bible is the best-seller of all time & continues to be at the top every year. 25 million copies are sold every year in the US, another 100 million sold globally, and another 400 million distributed by Bible Societies.

Quotes: “The Bible is no mere book, but a Living Creature, with a power that conquers all that oppose it.” **Napoleon Bonaparte**

“I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to men. All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated to us through this Book.” **Abraham Lincoln**

According to a recent Survey of “churchgoers”, the #1 predictor of spiritual maturity was whether a person reads the Bible every day.

(Expound on this) Yet, these same churchgoers do not read their Bible nor do many people even know basic Biblical facts. Ask 100 church members if they read the Bible today – 84 will say no; once in the last week – 69 will say no; even more ask those same 100 church members has reading & studying the Bible made a significant difference in your life and only 37 would say yes!!! This has led to biblical illiteracy and a huge disconnect between Scripture & one’s everyday life. We desire to see that change! “For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

Hebrews 4:12

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Here is what the Baptist Faith and Message says about Scripture.

“The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.”

The Particulars [2 Peter 1:19-21](#)

✓ **Inspired**

Through the Holy Spirit, God inspired the writing of the Holy Scripture through people. literally means, breathed out by God, He orchestrated the whole process God used 40 human authors, He spoke to them and uniquely through each of them in a time spanning over 1600 years written on 3 continents in 3 different languages. Today it has been translated into 2200 + languages!

66 Books 39 in OT/27 in NT 1189 chapters/31,697 verses

Quote: Josh McDowell “The Bible was written over a period of 1600 years in various places stretching all the way from Babylon to Rome The human authors included people from various stations in life: kings, peasants, poets, herdsmen, fisherman, scientists, farmers, priests,

pastors, tentmakers, and governors. It was written in a wilderness, a dungeon, inside palaces, and prisons, and on lonely islands and in military battles. Yet it speaks with agreements and reliability on hundreds of controversial subjects. Yet it tells one story from beginning to end, God's salvation of man through Jesus Christ. NO PERSON could have possibly conceived such a work!"

So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. 2 Peter 1:19-21

✓ **Infallible Inerrant**

There is no error, we either believe the Bible as a whole, or we don't believe it all. It is the truth, it is exactly what God wanted us to have. We must believe it from Genesis to the maps.

For the Word of the Lord holds true, and everything He does is worthy of our trust." Psalm 33:4

Even in the copying of the texts from one generation to the next, we find no errors except for minor grammatical or spelling changes that we have found in the oldest manuscripts. And by the way, we have more copies of the Bible than we do of any other major works of literature.

Text	Gap	#
Aristotle	1,400	5
Plato	1,300	7
Caesar	950	10

Homer	400	643
OT	400-1,250	>12,000
NT	40-250	>24,000

✓ **Immovable & Indestructible**

God’s Word does not change or waver, because He is the same yesterday, today and forever, so too is His Word. It is just as relevant today as it was when it was written. How is that possible? Because, it is God’s Word. You cannot change God’s Word nor can you destroy, many people of tried it, but His Word has remained. How? Because it says here in God’s Word that, “[The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.](#)” Isaiah 40:8 NASU

✓ **Instructive** 2 Timothy 3:16-17

It tells us about God, about His love affair with mankind, how we can know Him personally, and how to live this Christian life on a daily basis and what our calling is in this life – to glorify the Lord with all that we say and do.

✓ **Inclusive – Complete**

[“Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Do not add to his words, lest he rebuke you and you be found a liar.”](#) Proverbs 30:5-6

[I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.](#)

[Revelation 22:18-19](#)

The Big Picture There is One Story – The Glory of God

Take a look from outer space if you will – Google Map – see it from above

– we will take a high flyover look at the whole Bible. See the Bible has one complete story – the Glory of God and His love for people and His plan for redemption. The Word we might use – promise.

✓ **Promises Made The Message of the Old Testament**

Many Christians love to skip the Old Testament, outdated, boring, hard to understand many say, yet we miss the very foundation upon which the New Testament was built. Jesus spoke of the Old Testament and its importance – so much so that He said - “For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.” Mathew 5:18

▪ **A Particular History**

We begin in Genesis 1:1 – “In the beginning God created...” The story begins with the greatest even in history, something out of nothing. It starts with Adam and follows it through the calling of the nation of Israel with Abraham to the kings and kingdom, and then exile and God’s dealing with His people and the world.

Won’t take much time – OT divided into 39 books, with 5 different types, The Law – 1st Five Books, History – 12 books – Joshua – Esther, then Wisdom – 5 Books Job – Song of Songs, then Prophets – last 17 books of the Old Testament

▪ **A Passion for Holiness**

Many people associate the God of the OT with anger and vengeance – but what we really find is God’s desire for holiness. When God became angry in the OT, it was because He was committed to his own holy and glorious character and He is committed to His covenant with His people. Sin, the culprit that stirs up God’s anger, robs God of glory, and breaks His covenant with His people. We see God making covenants with His people - His relationship with them. It is here we see call for holiness and man’s inability to keep it thus the need for reconciliation which required a sacrifice – a payment. Thus we see the sacrificial system set into place – to teach them their sin separated them from a Holy God and yet these sacrifices in and of themselves were not the point – it was the heart.

▪ **A Promise of Hope**

Sets the table for this promise of hope. We see this foreshadowing or as one author calls it – the scarlet thread that weaves all the way

through Scripture from the beginning to the end – God’s unfailing and sacrificial love – His covenant, faithful love – Hessed. Their hope was not found in their history, their sacrifices, but only in God’s promised Savior – the Messiah

✓ **Promises Kept The Message of the New Testament**

300 quotes/4,000 allusions from the Old Testament – the expectation that the Messiah was coming and was the only One who could change it. Their hopes were all but gone. We see God keeping His promises in the OT and especially seeing the promises come true which is why we have hope – it is what the NT is all about – God delivering on His promise in what we just celebrated last week!

▪ **The Promised Redeemer: Christ**

It tells us that the plan was set in motion before history begin and told throughout the OT that the Savior was coming. The OT makes promises about Christ and the NT keeps the promises in Christ. In the NT we see the outline of the 27 books – the 4 Gospels which tell of Jesus – the promised Savior – His life, death, and resurrection. We see it go on in Acts – the History of the Church – the bride of Christ and coming of the Holy Spirit – and how the church launches and the Gospel is begun to be spread to the ends of the earth.

▪ **The Promised Relationship: A New Covenant People**

We then see the Letters of Paul – 13 letters, and then those written by James, John, Peter, and Jude plus Hebrews where we see God’s fulfillment of the OT prophecy that He would abide in us and live through us, not just in a temple, but that we would become His temple.

▪ **The Promised Renewal: A New Creation**

We then see the final letter – that of Revelation and it ends in the same way that it begin – and the 3D Journey we just finished on Friday in Chapter 22 – “I am the Alpha and Omega, the first and last, the beginning and the end. We see God’s promise of heaven fulfilled – the holiness of God’s people will be complete and we will finally dwell together with Him forever! Heaven is great for one reason – because God abides with His people!

The Purpose

- ✓ **Learn the Word** Ezra 7:10a “For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the Lord” It is a decision that we must make in our hearts!

We have to read it and study and know what it is saying. Have a plan and read it everyday asking the question – how does this apply to my life. Learn the books of the Bible. Take the Winter LifeTrak – Read the Bible for Life so you can better understand it!

Quote: “Most people are bothered by the passages of Scripture which they cannot understand. The Scripture which troubles me most is the Scripture I do understand” **Mark Twain**

- ✓ **Love the Word** Psalm 119:97

We must cherish these Words – treat them as gold, treat them as food to be eaten and digested – treat it like that novel that we can’t put down – to love it which means that we will obey it! To not just read it though that is important, but to love what it says, and love the God who wrote it and gave it to us!

- ✓ **Live the Word** Ezra 7:10 “For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the Lord and to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel.”

Apply It & Share the Word

The ultimate purpose of the Bible is not to inform us, it is to transform us. God doesn’t want us to just be hearers of the Word, he wants us to be doers of the Word—living gospels—sharing the good news of Jesus Christ not only in our words, but in our lives. Too often most of us believe that this is the Word of God, but too often, we don’t obey it, we don’t live it. It is not a part of us Our behavior does not line up with our beliefs. **Quotes:** “Sin will keep you from this Book or this Book will keep you from sin.” **Dwight L. Moody** “What makes the difference is not how many times you haven through the Bible, but how many times and how thoroughly the Bible has been through you.” **Gipsy Smith**

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In Genesis, Jesus is the Ram at Abraham's altar.
In Exodus, He is the Passover Lamb.
In Leviticus, He is the High Priest.
In Numbers, He is the Cloud by day and Pillar of Fire by night.
In Deuteronomy, He is the City of our Refuge.
In Joshua, He is the Scarlet Thread out Rahab's window.
In Judges, He is our Judge.
In Ruth, He is our Kinsman Redeemer.
In 1 & 2 Samuel, He is our Trusted Prophet.
In Kings & Chronicles, He is our Reigning King.
In Ezra, He is our Faithful Scribe.
In Nehemiah, He is the Rebuilder of everything that is broken.
In Esther, He is the Mordecai sitting faithful at the gate.
In Job He is our Redeemer that ever lives.
In Psalms, He is my Shepherd I shall not want.
In Proverbs and Ecclesiastes, He is our Wisdom.
In the Song of Solomon He is the Beautiful Bridegroom.
In Isaiah He is the Suffering Prophet.
In Jeremiah and Lamentations, He is the Weeping Prophet.
In Ezekiel He is the wonderful Four-Faced Man.
In Daniel He is the Fourth man in the midst of the fiery furnace.
In Hosea, He is my Love that is forever faithful.
In Joel, He is the Baptizer of the Holy Spirit.
In Amos, He is our burden Bearer.
In Obadiah, He is our Savior.
In Jonah, He is the great foreign missionary that takes the word of God into all the world.
In Micah, He is the Messenger with beautiful feet.
In Nahum, He is the avenger.
In Habakkuk, He is the Watchman that is ever praying for revival.
In Zephaniah, He is the Lord Mighty to serve.
In Haggai, He is the restorer of our lost heritage.
In Zechariah, He is our fountain.
In Malachi, He is the Son of righteousness with healing in His wings.
In Matthew, He is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.
In Mark, He is the miracle worker.

In Luke, He is the son of man.
In John, He is the Door by which every one of us must enter.
In Acts, He is the shining Light that appears to Saul on the road to Damascus.
In Romans, He is our Justifier.
In 1 Corinthians, He is our Resurrection.
In 2 Corinthians, He is our sin Bearer.
In Galatians, He Redeems us from the law.
In Ephesians, He is our unsearchable Riches.
In Philippians, He supplies our every need.
In Colossians, He is the Fullness of the Godhead bodily.
In 1 & 2 Thessalonians, He is our soon Coming King.
In 1 & 2 Timothy He is the Mediator between God and man.
In Titus, He is our Blessed Hope.
In Philemon, He is a Friend that sticks closer than a brother.
In Hebrews, He is the Blood of the Everlasting Covenant.
In James, He is the Lord that heals the sick.
In 1 & 2 Peter, He is our Chief Shepherd.
In 1,2 & 3 John, it is Jesus Who has the tenderness of Love.
In Jude, He is the Lord coming with 10,000 saints.
In Revelation, LIFT UP YOUR EYES CHURCH FOR YOUR REDEMPTION DRAWETH NIGH,
HE IS THE KING OF KINGS AND THE LORD OF LORDS.