



“V” IS FOR VICTORY

APRIL 4, 2018 | PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11 | RODNEY MILLS

Twelve horizontal dashed lines for handwritten notes.

F260 BIBLE READING PLAN

A BIBLE READING PLAN FOR BUSY BELIEVERS

WEEK 14 (APR 5)

☐ Judges 6-7 | ☐ Judges 13-14 | ☐ Judges 15-16 | ☐ Ruth 1-2 | ☐ Ruth 3-4

MEMORY VERSES

Psalm 19:14 | Galatians 4:4-5

SERMON IN A SENTENCE

All are invited to participate in the V-shaped Gospel of Jesus, who has been victoriously enthroned as the Son of God in Power over the Kingdom of God.

THIS WEEK'S BIBLICAL BASIC

Humanity: I believe all people are loved by God and need Jesus Christ as their Savior. *“For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life,” (John 3:16, CSB).*

Questions for Your Journal

Use these following questions to evaluate what you learned from Sunday's sermon.

Summary:

- The main thing the speaker wants me to do, be, and/or feel as a result of this message.

Application to My Life:

- What did God say to me through this message?
 - How does my life measure up to this word?
 - What action(s) will I take to bring my life in line with this word?
 - What truth do I need to study further?
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The Resurrection & Our Lives Today.

The author and pastor, Timothy Keller, describes his experience as a college student and new Christian in the 1970's. He and his friends wanted to share the good news about Jesus, so they set up a table off their college quad with a sign that read: "THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST IS INTELLECTUALLY CREDIBLE AND EXISTENTIALLY SATISFYING."¹ Christians around the world and through the ages have discovered that this is true. Belief in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is not a "leap of faith" or the wish of deluded simpletons, but a result of rigorous historical investigation of the claims made in Scripture. It also invests our lives with meaning and purpose by reorienting us to the Lord of all.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

While we don't have the space here to explore the historical evidence for Jesus' Resurrection in great detail, one place we could at least begin is with Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. In 1 Corinthians 15:3-7, Paul relates information that he considers to be

"of first importance. . .that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. After that he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time. . .then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me," (1 Cor 15:3-8).

The reason this is significant for the historical verification of the Resurrection is seen, first, in the significance of Jesus' public, post-Resurrection appearances. He did not simply reveal himself to one or two people, but to individuals, small groups, and large gatherings in a variety of places. Second, two of those converted—James and Paul—were initially skeptical or opposed to Jesus' mission. Third, 1 Corinthians was written less than 25 years after the Resurrection while many of these eyewitnesses were still alive and their testimony could have been verified by someone who

didn't believe (1 Cor 15:6). Taken together these factors mean that the burden of proof lies with those who would deny the historicity of the Resurrection.

Once the Resurrection is accepted as a historical fact, its existential impact can be assessed. This is also seen in 1 Corinthians. There the Apostle Paul continues, "if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. . .If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied," (1 Cor 15:17, 19). However, since Christ has been raised, our sins are forgiven! The Resurrection means that Jesus is who He claimed to be and can deliver on all that He promised. We can live for Him knowing that He is able to keep us in His perfect peace, provide for our daily needs, and, finally, grant to us the resurrection life that He now experiences. What a satisfying and abundant life to live!

Encounter

Take a few minutes to read Philippians 2:5–11 in a couple of Bible translations. Make a note of any differences between the translations and anything that especially jumps out at you.

Reflect

In Philippians 2:5–11, Paul reminds his readers how Jesus' humble life has given way to an eternity of exaltation. **Read Philippians 2:5–11 and think back to Sunday's sermon. In your own words describe the major events of Jesus' pre-Incarnate, eternal existence and human life.**

Paul's reference to Jesus' preexistence in Philippians 2:6 emphasizes the consistent message of the New Testament, namely, that Jesus had the unique experience of existing before being born. John takes up this theme throughout his Gospel. **Read John 1:1–5, 1:14–18 and John 17:4–5. How should Jesus' preexistence as the Son of God shape our understanding of His earthly life? How should we respond?**

According to the Apostle Paul, Jesus' humble, human life was the reason behind His glorious exaltation (Phil 2:9–11). While from a human view the cross appeared to be the end to Jesus' mission of establishing a kingdom, God vindicated Him by raising Him from the dead and exalting Him to the place of honor. **Read 1 Timothy 3:14–16. How should this unexpected vindication characterize the church's witness to the world?**

Paul calls the Philippians to recognize that Jesus' willing submission to the Father's will sets out a pattern of humility that they should follow (Phil 2:5). **How should Jesus' willingness to relinquish his rights change the way we think about our relationship with others?**

Examine

Based on 2 Timothy 3:16 (“*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness*”), this series of questions is intended to help you figure out what you should do or believe in response to this text. (*This passage may not have a clear answer for each question. Just use them to prompt your thinking.*)

1. What does this passage tell me to believe?

(How does it teach me?)

2. What does this passage tell me not to believe?

(How does it reprove me?)

3. How does this passage tell me not to live?

(How does it correct me?)

4. How does this passage tell me to live?

(How does it train me in righteousness?)

Embrace

After spending significant time with this passage, you've probably learned a lot and heard God speak to you through His Word. Look back at your responses to the previous questions and ask God to show you how you can respond to this text this week.

Write down some ideas for how you can respond to the truth of God's Word.

About The Map

The Map exists to help you consistently reflect on Scripture as you pursue maturity in Christ. When you devote yourself to reading God's Word, and meditate on what you read, you're allowing Him to shape your thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors.

NOTES:

1. Marvin Olasky, "A Wave Came In," World Magazine, May 8, 2010. https://world.wng.org/2010/04/a_wave_came_in



Disciple-Making Guide

Kids Kindergarten through 6th grade receive Adventure Tokens for discipleship activities completed during the week. They can spend them at the Adventure Store on the last Sunday of the month.

Big Picture Questions for Unit 32: “Easter”

Preschool: Q: Who saves us from our sin?
A: *Jesus saves us from sin.*

Kids (1-6): Q: Who saves us from our sin?
A: *Only Jesus saves us from sin.*

This Week’s Family Reading Plan

for Preschoolers: *Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego**

Day 1: *Judges 6-7*

Day 2: *Judges 13-14*

Day 3: *Judges 15-16*

Day 4: *Ruth 1-2*

Day 5: *Ruth 3-4*

**Preschool readings are taken from [The Big Picture Interactive Bible Stories for Toddlers, Old Testament](#) (B&H Publishing Group), available at [Amazon.com](#) & [LifeWay Christian Store](#).*

Key Passage for Unit 32: “Easter”

Preschoolers: “We know that Christ, having been raised from the dead, will not die again,” (Romans 6:9, *CSB*).

Kids (1-6 grade): “We know that Christ, having been raised from the dead, will not die again. Death no longer rules over Him,” (Romans 6:9, *CSB*).

Northway’s Family Ministry uses *The Gospel Project* to help preschoolers, kids, and students grow in their knowledge of Scripture and of Jesus Christ, about whom it was all written (Luke 24:44-49).



Adventure Token Coupon

Fill this out and bring it to Bible Study for your tokens!

I worked on learning my big picture question and key passage _____.

I read my Bible at home _____.

Child’s Name _____.

Parent’s Signature _____.

30 BIBLICAL BASICS

CORE BELIEFS

God | 2 Corinthians 13:13

I believe the God of the Bible is the only true God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Personal God | Psalm 121:1-2

I believe God is involved in and cares about my daily life.

Salvation by Grace | Ephesians 2:8-9

I believe a person comes into a right relationship with God by His grace, through faith in Jesus Christ.

Authority of the Bible | 2 Timothy 3:16-17

I believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God that guides my belief and action.

Identity in Christ | John 1:12

I believe I am significant because of my position as a child of God.

Church | Ephesians 4:15

I believe the church is God's primary way to accomplish His purposes on earth.

Humanity | John 3:16

I believe all people are loved by God and need Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Compassion | Psalm 82:3-4

I believe God calls all Christians to show compassion to those in need.

Stewardship | Psalm 24:1-2

I believe that everything I am and everything I own belong to God.

Eternity | John 14:1-2

I believe there is a heaven and a hell and that Jesus will return to judge all people and to establish His eternal kingdom.

CORE PRACTICES

Worship | Psalm 95:1-2

I worship God for who He is and what He has done for me.

Prayer | Psalm 66:18-20

I pray to God to know him, to find direction for my life, and to lay my requests before him.

Bible Study | Hebrews 4:12

I study the Bible to know God and his truth, and to find direction for my daily life.

Single-mindedness | Matthew 6:33

I focus on God and His priorities for my life.

Total Surrender | Romans 12:1

I dedicate my life to God's purposes.

Biblical Community | Acts 2:44-47

I fellowship with other Christians to accomplish God's purposes in my life, in the life of others, and in the world.

Spiritual Gifts | Romans 12:4-6

I know my spiritual gifts and use them to fulfill God's purposes.

Offering My Time | Colossians 3:17

I offer my time to fulfill God's purposes.

Giving My Resources | 2 Corinthians 8:7

I give my resources to fulfill God's purposes.

Sharing My Faith | Ephesians 6:19-20

I share my faith with others to fulfill God's purposes.

CORE VIRTUES

Love | 1 John 4:10-12

I am committed to loving God and loving others.

Joy | John 15:11

Despite my circumstances, I feel inner contentment and understand my purpose in life.

Peace | Philippians 4:6-7

I am free from anxiety because I have found peace with God, peace with others, and peace with myself.

Self-Control | Titus 2:11-13

I have the power through Christ to control myself.

Hope | Hebrews 6:19-20

I can cope with the hardships of life because of the hope I have in Jesus Christ.

Patience | Proverbs 14:29

I am slow to anger and endure patiently under the unavoidable pressures of life.

Kindness/Goodness | 1 Thessalonians 5:15

I choose to be kind and good in my relationships with others.

Faithfulness | Proverbs 3:3-4

I have established a good name with God and with others based on my loyalty to those relationships.

Gentleness | Philippians 4:5

I am thoughtful, considerate and calm in dealing with others.

Humility | Philippians 2:3-4

I choose to esteem others above myself.

The 30 Biblical Basics are the skeleton of a person being formed into the image of Jesus by His Spirit (Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18), a helpful framework for the Christian's thoughts, actions, and character. As we commit ourselves to growing in Christ through the process of spiritual formation, we pray these statements become increasingly true of us. When they are, we'll be able to carry out the biblical mandate to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27), and to truly **love, live, and lead like Jesus.**