

# THE 90-DAY BIBLE STUDY GUIDE

A Bible Study Tour of the  
Greatest Story Ever Told

By Bruce Gust

*Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker  
who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word  
of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15 (NIV)*

# **The 90-Day Study Guide**

## **A Bible Study Tour of the Greatest Story Ever Told**

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*I dedicate this book to my bride...  
I've never stopped calling her that since the day we got married  
and I've never stopped wanting her to be watching when I'm  
playing the drums and I happen to hit a lick that we both know  
was pretty sweet! I love you so, Michelle!*



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# INTRODUCTION

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Everyday you're answering three questions in the context of the way you live your life:

- Where did I come from?
- What am I doing here?
- Where am I going when I die?

The way in which you answer these questions is based on one of two paradigms: That which is destined to die, quit or change or that which endures forever. One is fundamentally human the other is entirely supernatural. That is the essence of "religion."

When it comes down to what your spiritual options are, Jesus Christ is a standout. He's the only One Who claimed to be God and then went on to prove it by dying and coming back to life. Two thousand years' worth of archeology, literature, architecture and art—not to mention the lives that are transformed by His Grace—make Christianity and the Bible something worth more than a casual glance. This is something you want to dive deep into.

But why would you want to do that? What do you gain by being more than just "somewhat familiar" with the Truths represented in God's Word? Is He more than just a Divine Emergency Kit? Does being a believer translate to anything that resonates as practically advantageous, or is it just a collection of lofty, theological concepts reserved for funeral arrangements and critical moments?

In John 17:3, Jesus defined eternal life as "knowing God." That means that you and I have access to the Ultimate Source of Purpose, Peace and Power. But a lot of what God is bringing to the table stays on the table unless you're rolling up your sleeves, putting your boots on, getting out there and digging for those Truths that make a difference in the way you see yourself and the world around you.

Don't be satisfied with a couple of Bible verses that you memorized years ago. You want to understand the flow of the Bible. You want to know where the foundational verses upon which our doctrine is based are located. You want to know where all the familiar stories are and how all of it "fits" together in a way that points to the "greatest story ever told."

You want to get to the point you're not just "getting through it," now you're "getting to it!" You're no longer just existing, but truly living equipped with an authentic understanding of God's Word.

The *90 Day Bible Study Guide* is not a comprehensive commentary on every book of the Bible. It is a primer to help you overcome whatever might intimidate you about studying the Bible.

For the next 90 days, you're going to be going through a portion of every book in the Bible. You'll be answering questions that are designed to help you retain what you're studying so you're not just transforming your mind, you're also increasing the capacity for the Reality of God in your heart—and that's something to be excited about!

Are you ready?

# THE 90 DAY BIBLE STUDY GUIDE

# Course Notes and Study Format

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## **How to Use This Guide**

For the next ninety days you will read a portion of Scripture that has been carefully selected to represent something genuinely intriguing and, at times, even integral to the Christian faith. You will come face to face with some of the most amazing stories in the Bible as well as some of the most profound Truths that will shape your life from this moment on.

This study guide can be used for individual study or as a group study meeting weekly to discuss each letter.

## **Studying**

Each day you will read the corresponding Scripture passages for each session. As you read, make notes in your book and underline or highlight sections in your Bible that you are drawn to. As you work through each session, make note of any other questions you have in the Notes section at the end of each session. The answers to each question can be found at [www.BrownChairBooks.com](http://www.BrownChairBooks.com). However, do not cheat yourself. Work through each session prior to viewing the answers.

## **Group Format**

For group formats, the study works well over 14 consecutive weeks. The first week is an introduction week to hand out study guides (if purchased by the church), read through the introduction and set a plan and schedule for the remaining 13

weeks.

This study lends itself very well to both Sunday school classes as well as midweek times at the church or in the homes of members. Session length is variable. Ideally, you should allow at least 60 minutes per session. For longer sessions, take a quick refreshment break in the middle.

As a group leader, your role will be to facilitate the group sessions using the study guide and the answers found at [www.BrownChairBooks.com](http://www.BrownChairBooks.com). You will find making copies of the Scripture guide for each participant helpful as it eliminates the time required in each class to look the passages up.

### **Learning Environment**

The following are some suggestions for shaping the learning environment for group sessions that help manage time, participation, and confidentiality.

- Ask the Holy Spirit for help as you prepare for the study. Pray for discernment for each member of the group, including yourself.
- Before each session, familiarize yourself with the Scripture passages, questions and answers as it may have been several days since you completed the session.
- Be prepared to adjust the session as group members interact and questions arise. Allow for the Holy Spirit to move in and through the material, the group members, and yourself.
- Arrange the meeting space to enhance the learning process. Group members should be seated around a table or in a circle so that they can all see one another. Moveable chairs are best.

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- Bring Bibles for those who forget to bring one or for those who might not have one. (If someone is reading aloud, you might ask the person to identify from which Bible translation he or she is reading.)
- If your teaching style includes recording responses from participants or writing questions or quotations for discussion on a board you may want access to a whiteboard or an easel.
- Create a climate where it is safe to share. Encourage group members to participate as they feel comfortable. Remember that some will be eager to give answers or offer commentary while others will need time to process and think.
- If you notice that some participants are hesitant to enter the conversation, ask if they have thoughts to share. Give everyone an opportunity to talk, but keep the conversation moving. Intervene when necessary to prevent a few individuals from dominating discussion.
- Monitor your own contributions. If you are doing most of the talking, back off so that you do not train the group to listen rather than speak.
- Honor the designated time window. Begin on time. If a session runs longer than expected, get consensus from the group before continuing.
- Involve participants in various aspects of the session such as offering prayer and reading Scripture.

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### Suggested Session Outline

Most groups will study three letters per week over a 14-week period, but you are by no means locked into that format.. The session outline below will be helpful in planning your group times.

Date	Time	Session	Letters
		Week 1	Introduction
		Week 2	Session 1
		Week 3	Session 2
		Week 4	Session 3
		Week 5	Session 4
		Week 6	Session 5
		Week 7	Session 6
		Week 8	Session 7
		Week 9	Session 8
		Week 10	Session 9
		Week 11	Session 10
		Week 12	Session 11
		Week 13	Session 12
		Week 14	Session 13

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# WEEK 1



Genesis. It's not so much a question of how old the earth is as much as it is the fact that you're starting with the cosmological equivalent to the null set. In other words, "In the beginning", the very beginning, there were no mathematical quantities let alone chemical properties. If that is your starting point, then how do you come up with a drop of water let alone a bird that can fly?

We get so bogged down with our resolve to contain everything in an intellectually accessible box, that we wind up bending the laws of nature in order to explain them. We're so impressed with our theories on how life could somehow morph from a single cell organism into something more complex that we neglect to explain how the ordered systems within which these theoretical reactions came into being to start with.

The answer...God.

He's not a compromise of an intellectual approach to Creation. He's the best and wisest expression of it.

And while you can't help but wince as you watch Adam and Eve enjoy an apple they should have avoided to begin with, you take comfort in knowing that one event put into motion the Solution of Salvation that would be revealed in the New Testament.

The beginning.

Here we go.

## **Day 1: Creation**

Read Genesis 1 and 2

1. On what day did God create man?
2. What did Adam and Eve eat at first? What did God give them for food?
3. Which bone did God take out of Adam to make Eve?
4. What job did God give Adam and Eve?
5. What did God do on the seventh day?



## **Day 3: Cain and Abel**

Read Genesis 4

1. Who was the older brother, Cain or Abel?
2. Why did God accept Abel's offering over Cain's?
3. Why did Cain deceive his brother and then proceed to kill him?
4. How did God respond to Cain's actions?
5. Who was Lamech and how would you describe him?

## **Day 4: Noah**

Read Genesis 6-8

1. How old is man supposed to live according to Genesis 6?
2. Who were the Nephilim?
3. What were the names of Noah's sons?
4. What kind of wood did Noah use to build the ark?
5. Write out Genesis 6:22.
6. How long did Noah and his family stay in the ark before it began to rain (Gen 7:6-10)?

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7. How long did Noah and his family stay in the ark before it came to rest on the top of Mount Ararat?

8. In Genesis 9, God established a “sign” that represented His Promise that He would never again flood the earth. What is that sign?