

PATHWAY TO PEACE: BIBLE STUDY GUIDE – LESSON 1

Lesson 1: Life's Road Map

The purpose of a map is to give you the right directions you need to make it to your destination. What about in life? What “map” will give you the right directions you need? The only “map” that has transformed the lives of millions of people has been the Holy Bible. Thousands of people have put their lives at risk in defense of this great book. The Holy Bible is the only map for life that will give you truth, real peace, joy, and hope if you stay on its directed path. The Holy Bible is the only map and book that will prepare you for eternal life.

Look up Bible texts and complete the worksheet below.

1. What does the Bible reveal about how it was written?

Read the following Bible texts: **2 Timothy 3:16 (first part); 2 Peter 1:21**

Write Bible Answer:

The Bible reveals that the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation is inspired by God. It is not a literary collection of the ideas of men. It is not just a book of stories. **God inspired the minds of His chosen people with His messages of truth and they in turn spoke and/or wrote God’s inspired message to all people. The writers of the Bible could not take credit for something that was not their original thoughts, but their thoughts were inspired by God.** The Bible is Divine and human combined. Humans wrote it, but God inspired it. And since it is divinely inspired it is sacred, set apart from any other book in the world. It is Holy. So, we can conclude that the Holy Bible is the word of God since it is inspired by God.

2. What does the Bible say about the “word of God”?

Read the following Bible texts: **Proverbs 30:5, John 17:17, Hebrews 6:18, Isaiah 55:11**

Write Bible Answer:

God's word is pure, not defiled by sin or corruption. *John 17:17* says that God’s “word is truth.” *Hebrews 6:18* says that it is “impossible for God to lie. So when you are reading the word of God, the Bible, you are reading the pure undefiled truth directly inspired from God. *Isaiah 55:11* makes it clear that the words of God harnesses the power to do exactly what it is ordered to do. When God says that His “word shall not return unto me void,” He is saying that His word does not come back to Him with empty results. There are no empty promises with God. God’s word has legal power. It is law because when He says it, it is. God’s word has divine authority. It simply does what He says it will do. A great example of the power of God’s words in action is found in creation. When God said “let there be light,” immediately light appeared. ***Hebrews 11:3*** says that, “Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God.” Also, it is important to see that the word of God reveals God’s perfect will for your life.

3. How does the life of Jesus Christ characterize and magnify the Word of God?

Read the following Bible texts: **John 1:14**

Write Answer:

We know that the Bible, the Word of God was inspired by God. We know that His word has power, legal power, and divine authority, but one of the most amazing things about the Word of God is that it became flesh and bone in the form of Jesus Christ.

4. What is one of the greatest miracles about the Bible?

First let's answer these questions:

- a. How many books are in the Bible? _____
- b. How many books are in the Old Testament? _____
- c. How many books are in the New Testament? _____

The greatest miracle of the Bible is the unity and harmony of all 66 books!

Facts:

Did you know that the Bible was actually written on three different continents in three different languages? The Old Testament was written in Hebrew and the New Testament was written in part Greek and Aramaic.

Did you also know that the Bible was also written over a period of about 1,500 years by forty different people with various backgrounds, with different levels of education and personalities. Now many of these people, in most cases, had never met! Many were born in different periods of time over a 1500 year span in three different continents without the Internet, email, teleconferencing, or telephone. It is amazing that even though they had different spiritual experiences and observations in life that their inspired thoughts and ideas harmonize with each other beautifully. Every idea and thoughts of each writer in the Bible harmonize with each other. The Bible literally reads as if it was written by ONE great mind. That great mind is God.

Comments: _____

5. How accurate are the historical statements in the Bible?

Bible critics for years have tried their best to discredit the authenticity, accuracy and the truth of the Bible. But for years Bible critics have been proven wrong time and time again with many discoveries found by archaeologists over the years. For example the Bible mentions cities like Ninevah that is found in Jonah 1:1 & 2 and Sodom that is found in Genesis 19:1 which Bible skeptics denied ever existed. But they were proven wrong when modern archeology has confirmed their existence. Many critics have tried to charge that the kings of Israel and Judah were made up stories that never existed. But then archaeologists found hard core evidence of official records that were buried which mentioned many of the 39 kings that reigned over ancient Israel and Judah. In 1947 there was a discovery of ancient *scrolls* that were believed to be from a Jewish library. These scrolls known as the Dead Sea scrolls prove the authenticity of the Old Testament. The Bible has been proven accurate and authentic with the discovery of these scrolls founded in the caves near the Dead Sea. We are not studying a common book that was just put together or a book of fairy tales. The Bible is the Word of God. It is reliable, accurate, and true.

Comments: _____

6. Now what else confirms the accuracy and the truth of the Bible?

Did you know that the fulfillment of Bible prophecy confirms the accuracy and truth of the Bible? Bible prophecies are events and things foretold in advance before they even happened. For example, one of the most phenomenal fulfillments of Bible prophecy is the life of Jesus Christ. You know there were more than 125 prophecies in the Old Testament of different events that took place in the life of Jesus Christ that were accurately fulfilled in the New Testament. **The Old Testament for example predicted where He would be born, how He would be born, how He would be killed, and when He would be resurrected. All these things plus more were accurately fulfilled in the New Testament of the Bible.**

The fulfillment of the prophecies of Jesus Christ in the Bible was not by luck or by chance but it was designed and orchestrated by the hand of God. Statistics tell us that the odds of just **eight** of these prophecies being fulfilled in one man life is **one** in 1 giga-zillion. Yes, giga-zillion, because there are no mathematical numbers that we know of that we can describes how large the number is. When you do the math you will find at least 33 zeroes behind the one. So imagine what the odds would be on more than 300 prophecies of the Messiah? In other words, all the prophecies foretold in the Old Testament about the life of Christ could not just happen. Each fulfillment was not just coincidence.

Matter fact, Jesus taught about all of the fulfilled prophecies concerning himself from the Bible Old Testament. *Luke 24:27* says concerning Jesus, “And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all scriptures the things concerning Himself.” They studied the fulfillment of the prophecies of Jesus of Christ to build and maintain their faith in Him. Matter fact the study of Bible prophecy in general builds and maintains our faith in the Word of God. It builds our spiritual belief in Jesus Christ and gives us a sense of spiritual awareness of prophecy fulfilled and future events. So the amazing accuracy and fulfillment of the prophecies of Jesus Christ in the New Testament prove and confirm the accuracy and truth of the Holy Bible.

Comments: _____

7. What evidence of Bible inspiration is found in the lives of people?

Read the following Bible texts: 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 6:6

Write Bible Answer:

The change in the lives of those who obey the Word of God and follow the example of Jesus Christ shows the most practical and most powerful proof of Bible inspiration. Bible inspiration and truth have the power to radically change your life in a direction that gives you real peace and hope that only Jesus Christ can give through the study, understanding, and application of His Holy Word . Yes it is a miracle to see a sick person healed from a disease, it is a miracle to see a crippled walk again or the blind man to receive his sight, but the greatest miracle of them all is to see a person’s life radically changed by the inspiration and application of the Holy Bible. The Word of God will sober up a drunkard, clean up a drug addict, purify the immoral, make the rude kind, make the criminal honest and make the fearful courageous. There is no better proof of the inspired

Word of God than what it does in the lives of people who study, understand, and apply its truths. When a person is changed by the inspiration of this Great book they are no longer slaves to sin.

8. Why should you study the Bible for yourself?

Read the following Bible texts: John 5:39, Psalm 119:105,11; Romans 10:17, 2 Timothy 3:16, Romans 15:4

Write Bible Answer:

The study of the Bible not only testifies or is a witness of Jesus Christ, but it also leads us to eternal life. None of New York's best sellers can offer you, eternal life. The Bible is life's road map that leads you in the right way. The Word of God lights your path in life and keeps you on the right road of eternal life especially when you have to go through life's dark tunnels and caves. The study of the Bible builds your faith and understanding of God. The more study of God's Word the stronger you become spiritually.

The entire Word of God from Genesis to Revelation is given to us for four more main reasons: 1. Doctrine, God's spiritual guidelines for us; 2. Reproof, an expression of the disapproval of sin; 3. Correction, reveals what's right or what's wrong; 4. Instruction in righteousness, shows how to attain the righteousness of Jesus Christ.

Even in the midst of a chaotic world the study of the Bible gives comfort and hope in all of its promises. If Jesus Christ Himself had faith and comfort, hope, and confidence in the Holy Bible, we can surely put all of our trust in them.

Bible Study Summary

So in summary the Bible offers you eternal life, light, direction, faith, blessings, correction, instruction, and patience, comfort, peace and hope, just to name a few. The Holy Bible will not let you down. It is our responsibility to pick up the Map of Life, the Holy Bible, and study it for ourselves in order to reach the correct destination in life and that is eternal life in a heavenly kingdom with a Glorious King. 2 Timothy 2:15 says "Study to shew thyself approved unto God. A workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." The Bible is true, the Bible is real, the Bible is inspired, the Bible is unified, the Bible has the power to radically change your life, the Bible gives instruction, reproof, correction, hope, comfort, and peace, but never forget that the greatest thing the Bible gives you is Jesus Christ, our friend our Savior.

Lesson 1: “Life Road Map” Pathway to Peace Bible Brain Challenge

Name: _____

Date: _____

Please circle the correct answer (Answers can be found in study guide)

1.) According to the Bible, what does it reveal about itself about how it is written?

- A.) Scripture is giving by men
- B.) Old Testament Scripture is given by God
- C.) All Scripture is given by inspiration of God
- D.) All Scripture is given for information by God

2.) What does the Bible say about the “word of God”? (circle all that apply)

- A.) It is truth and pure
- B.) It is interesting
- C.) It will not return to God void
- D.) It is understandable to some

3.) How does the life of Jesus Christ characterize and magnify the Word of God?

- A.) The word was flesh
- B.) The word became flesh
- C.) The word destroys the flesh
- D.) The word mingled with flesh

4.) How many books are in the bible

- A.) 57
- B.) 27
- C.) 66
- D.) 76

5.) How many books are in the Old-Testament and New Testament?

- A.) OT-27, NT-59
- B.) OT-39, NT-27
- C.) OT-46, NT- 20
- D.) OT-56, NT- 27

6.) The Historical statements in the bible are accurate (True or False)?

7.) What POWERFUL evidence of Bible inspiration is found in the lives of people?

- A.) The bible has the power to change lives
- B.) It can help you has success
- C.) It can improve your life
- D.) It gives you motivation day bu day

8.) Why should you study the Bible for yourself?(Mark all that apply)

- A.) It is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path
- B.) There is no need to study just allow the pastor to do it for me
- C.) So that I can be a good debater in the word
- D.) It testifies of Jesus

Do you accept what the bible says about itself, and are you thankful that Jesus does not live us in the dark but gives us this road map to guide us on our heavenward journey? (Yes or No)

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