



Week 1 Study Sheet

Anchored in God

Check In

Take a moment to think about your week and share with others. This is an exercise that can be done alone with God, with a family member, or within a small group (allow each group member to share briefly, thank each person for sharing before moving to the next person):

1. Share one word that best describes how your week is going.
2. Share why you feel this way and describe it briefly using a couple of sentences.
3. Share a moment from this past week that you are thankful for.

Consider

Have you ever imagined what God looks like? Maybe it's a vision of God as an old, white-haired guy who sits on a throne? God created us as visual creatures, and when our minds aren't given the full details, we fill in the blanks. This happens with our view of God. The Bible rarely gives us a visual of God. So, how would we describe God? How would you fill in the blanks if you were asked to paint on a canvas who God is? Tougher than it sounds?

Words like good, righteous, holy, loving, and faithful often describe God more than words like handsome, young, or ruddy. The revelation God wants us to have of him is focused on his character rather than his corporal existence. He wants us to know how he will act in a relationship with us over anything else.

This is God's revelation: character over looks, perfection through grace, not work, and nearness based on his desire and not our attraction. God cautions Samuel to not look at the outward appearance when choosing a king, but rather the inside. ([1 Samuel 16:7](#)) The same applies to our understanding of God – we can let our imagination inform who God is, or we can let God's Word describe the true character of God.

Pray

Lord, it is our desire to see you and only you as the great relationship builder who can be trusted because of who you are.

Read

[Exodus 34:4-16](#)

Study

What words repeat, stand out, or are compared in the passage?

What does this reveal about the character of God?

What does it reveal about the character of man?

How would you describe who God is from this passage?

After reading this passage, can you reimagine how you view God?

Read

[Hebrews 6:13-20](#)

Study

What words, phrases, people, or thoughts stand out in this passage?

How do oaths reveal the character of God?

What truths can we anchor our faith in from this passage? And from the Exodus passage?

How can you build a better understanding of God from this passage?

What does this passage reveal that impacts you the most?

Apply

Spend 5-10 minutes daily reading [Exodus 34:6-7](#) and [Psalm 103](#) and reflecting on the character of God. Write down one truth about God's character that you need to trust more fully. Pray boldly this week, thanking God for his faithfulness and asking him to deepen your trust.



Week 2 Study Sheet

The Gospel Changes Everything

Check In

Take a moment to think about your week and share with others. This is an exercise that can be done alone with God, with a family member, or within a small group (allow each group member to share briefly, thank each person for sharing before moving to the next person):

1. Share one word that best describes how your week is going.
2. Share why you feel this way and describe it briefly using a couple of sentences.
3. Share a moment from this past week that you are thankful for.

Consider

Martin made a rash vow during a near death experience. “God, if you save me, I will become a priest.” Guess what, God saved him, and Martin kept up his end of the bargain. Martin spent the next few years engulfing himself with all that it meant to a priest. He took the right course and went on the right pilgrimages but found that doing all the right things still left him feeling empty. It seemed that when comparing all his good deeds, they never seemed to hold up to the righteousness of God. This left him depleted and even angry with God. Who wouldn’t be? How could we ever do anything that would match God’s goodness?

As tortured as his soul was, he continued to pour over the Scriptures until one day while studying the letter to the Romans he had an epiphany. “The righteousness of God is that by which the righteous lives by a gift of God, namely by faith.”¹ That gift is grace. For Martin, the gift of grace radically changed his view of God. It also changed the world.

You see, Martin Luther would go forward with this notion of grace to help establish the Protestant churches we have today. Luther’s understanding of grace forever changed his life- as it should ours. What a gift! We don’t earn it; we believe it and through our belief our faith draws us deeper into the grace of God. This unmerited grace saves our soul.

Pray

Oh Lord, may your grace abound in my life in such a way that it inspires those around me to trust you.

Read

[Ephesians 2:1-10](#)

Study

What words and phrases stand out in this passage?

How does Paul define humanity?

How does Paul define grace?

How do Paul’s words reveal the nature of God?

How does God’s grace affect us?

Read

[Romans 5:1-11](#)

Study

Who and what does this passage talk about?

How does this passage reveal the nature of humanity?

How does this passage connect faith and grace?

What areas do you need more of God’s grace?

How has God helped you with your faith in those areas?

Apply

Memorize [Ephesians 2:8-9](#) as a reminder of God’s grace. Pray and surrender any areas where you are still trying to “prove yourself” to God. Check out the OHC Scripture Memorization Card (ohcnow.com/memorize) for helpful tips as you develop the spiritual practice of Scripture memorization.

¹ Luther’s Preface to the Latin Writings (LW, 34:336-37).



Week 3 Study Sheet

Anchored in Prayer

Check In

Take a moment to think about your week and share with others. This is an exercise that can be done alone with God, with a family member, or within a small group (allow each group member to share briefly, thank each person for sharing before moving to the next person):

1. Share one word that best describes how your week is going.
2. Share why you feel this way and describe it briefly using a couple of sentences.
3. Share a moment from this past week that you are thankful for.

Consider

Who do you seek when life gets hard? Do you call a family member, a close friend, or a small group leader? Do you “Google” to find support? All these resources can be helpful when facing the stresses of life. But how often is God first on our list?

Sometimes we forget to talk to God, or we think our situation is too small. But nothing is too big, or too small for God. God sees us and he hears us. Talking to God in prayer anchors us to God. No matter where we are, or what we are experiencing, prayer allows us to draw near to him, and him to draw near to us.

Pray

Heavenly Father, I trust that you hear me and love me. Anchor my life in your grace and mercy.

Read

[Matthew 6:5-14](#)

Study

What phrases, words, or actions stand out in this passage?

How does Jesus describe prayer?

From this passage, what would you say are the key aspects of prayer?

How can we learn from Jesus’ model of prayer and apply it to our life?

Read

[James 5:13-20](#)

Study

What phrases stand out in this passage?

What moments should we pray according to James?

What things should we pray for?

Why is confession a significant part of a healthy prayer life?

What can we learn about prayer from Elijah’s story?

How can you use this passage to increase your prayer life?

Apply

Commit to at least 5 minutes of daily prayer this week. If you already have a daily prayer routine, add 5 more minutes to pray for your family, friends, people you mentor, or even those who mentor you.

Encourage one another by sharing how God is speaking to you during your prayer time.



Week 4 Study Sheet

The Bible is Our Guide

Check In

Take a moment to think about your week and share with others. This is an exercise that can be done alone with God, with a family member, or within a small group (allow each group member to share briefly, thank each person for sharing before moving to the next person):

1. Share one word that best describes how your week is going.
2. Share why you feel this way and describe it briefly using a couple of sentences.
3. Share a moment from this past week that you are thankful for.

Consider

As a man, Augustine struggled with life. He spent many years chasing the meaning of his life through different forms of philosophy. All these forms of philosophy left him feeling empty and lost. Can you relate to this? Have you ever found yourself in a place where there was little direction in your life? A time when you needed an answer and only got more questions?

It was at this point in his life, that Augustine, while in Milan listening to the teachings of Ambrose, retreated to a garden. He was woefully lost and confused. The great teachings of Ambrose had set his heart ablaze with more questions, more soul searching. Then, Augustine hears children playing and singing in the garden “pick up and read, pick up and read.” All he must read in this moment is the Bible and he opens it up to the Book of Romans.

God seems to speak with surgical precision. His life was forever changed by the Word of God and in many regards Christianity itself. Augustine’s story is one that many of us have shared. God’s Word impacts our life, and we come to realize it is the very voice of God speaking to us.

Pray

Lord, let your Word be a lamp unto my feet and light for my path.

Read

[Deuteronomy 6:1-9](#)

Study

What words, phrases, or events stand out in this passage?

How is God speaking to the Israelites?

How will the Israelites remember God’s Words?

How can you open your heart to God’s voice by reading his Word?

What does this passage teach us about God speaking to us through his Word?

Read

[2 Timothy 3:10-17](#)

Study

What themes or words stand out in this passage?

How is Paul helping Timothy learn to hear God’s voice?

How can we help others hear God’s voice?

In what ways has God spoken to Timothy?

How can we use Scripture to guide our life?

How can we view Scripture as God speaking to us?

Apply

Create a habit of reading Scripture daily. Join OHC as we read through the Book of Acts using the YouVersion Acts Reading Guide plan (ohcnow.com/Acts). Use the OHC Inductive Bible Study Method Card (ohcnow.com/Inductive) to help guide you as you read through the Book of Acts. Continue the practice of Scripture memorization by memorizing [Psalm 119:105](#) and [2 Timothy 3:16](#).