



**#ROOTED**



# **GOING DEEPER INTO GOD'S WORD**

A GUIDE FOR SAINTS

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# INTRODUCTION

## GOING DEEPER INTO GOD'S WORD A GUIDE FOR SAINTS

Welcome to Rooted, a five-session course to help train you to read and study the Bible more effectively.

This booklet is a companion to the Rooted video series. The videos are not designed as extensive or advanced teachings but instead focus on helping and inspiring everyday believers in the basics of how we are to handle Scripture.

## THE SESSIONS

**Session 1:** A Translation You Can Trust

**Session 2:** Our Attitude Towards the Bible

**Session 3:** Bridging the Gap

**Session 4:** How to Let the Scriptures Speak

**Session 5:** Applying Scripture Today

# WORKSHEET

## SESSION 1 | ROOTED

# A TRANSLATION YOU CAN TRUST

## THE AIM

To understand how Bibles are translated and which are the better contemporary translations. A Bible should be translated to give us the clearest view of the meaning the original authors intended the original readers to receive. Some translations do this well, others poorly.

## THE OVERVIEW

Bible translations exist on a spectrum defined by translation philosophy. There are four main types we discuss in this video:

- **Word-for-word:**
  - \* Only an Interlinear is truly word-for-word.
- **Formal Equivalent:**
  - \* translate each word into the closest equivalent allowing for grammar and syntax (ESV, NASB, KJV, NKJV).
- **Dynamic Equivalent:**
  - \* besides translating the words, it may translate idioms and cultural references into modern equivalents (NIV, NLT, CSB, HCSB).
- **Paraphrase:**
  - \* translates very loosely, using modern idioms and phrases. These are not good as everyday Bibles (LB, MSG); some are not good at all (TPT, EXB).

## THE KEY TRUTHS AND SCRIPTURES TO CONSIDER

*"All Scripture is God-breathed," 2 Timothy 3:16*

- For us to know what the Bible says, we need a translation that faithfully reflects the actual words and thoughts of the original Holy-Spirit-inspired authors.

*"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves..." James 1:22-25*

- Once we know what the Bible says, we have a responsibility to live it.

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- What Bible do you read?
- Why did you select that translation?
- What other translations have you tried reading?
- How has what you heard challenged your thoughts about Bible translations?

## PRAYER POINTS

- Thank God for the gift of His Word.
- Repent of reading the Scriptures without living them out.
- Commit to reading and living the Word of God.

## NOTES

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# WORKSHEET

## SESSION 2 | ROOTED

# OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE BIBLE

## THE AIM

The aim of this session is for us to see the importance of positioning ourselves correctly before God and His Word. We must first come to God's Word with the right heart attitude before coming with the right skills- and it's this right attitude that brings the delight of God.

## THE OVERVIEW

There are four attitudes we discuss in this video:

- Come with an attitude of faith.
- Come with a humble attitude.
- Come with a worshipful attitude.
- Come with an obedient attitude .

## THE KEY TRUTHS AND SCRIPTURES TO CONSIDER

- We must believe the Scriptures are God's Word spoken through human authors, yet without error. 2 Timothy 3:16
- God blesses the person who approaches the Bible with humility and who submit their opinions under the authority of Scripture. Isaiah 66:2
- Our greatest aim is to read and study the Bible to get to know God better- to meet the author, not just to learn information. John 5:39-40
- God gives us commandments to obey and moral boundaries he places for our good- this is a sign of those who truly love Him. John 14:15, Psalm 119:4-5

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Which of the four attitudes are most challenging to you and why?
- Is it wrong to purely read the Bible only for information? What is the fruit of someone who has this attitude?

## PRAYER POINTS

- Thank God for the gift of his Word.
- Repent of attitudes that have been unhelpful when coming to the Scriptures.
- Ask God to help you trust him and to take God at His word by faith!
- Make a fresh commitment to take God at His word.

## NOTES

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dotted lines, typical of primary school writing paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

# WORKSHEET

## SESSION 3 | ROOTED

# BRIDGING THE GAP

## THE AIM

To learn how to interpret the Bible correctly and the important principle of being a modern believer handling an ancient text. Many of the practical handles of how to read the Bible will be covered in Session 4.

## THE OVERVIEW

In reading the Bible, we see the importance of interpreting Scripture. Specifically:

- Why do we even need to interpret the Bible?
- Understanding it as an ancient document and the gap principle.
- How we read into the Scriptures with our modern biases .

## THE KEY TRUTHS AND SCRIPTURES TO CONSIDER

- The way we interpret the Bible determines our beliefs.
- False or unhealthy teaching often comes about because of a misguided interpretation of Scripture.
- We all instinctively interpret the Bible, but we have to learn the skill to interpret it correctly. Matthew 5:29 and 2 Timothy 2:15. The Bible was written to ancient believers, yet it is God's Word for us today.
- We need to learn how to bridge the 2000 year gap .
- We can wrongly read into Scripture through a modern cultural lens.



## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- How have you been challenged in this session?
- How has your previous church (or unchurched) background caused you to interpret the Bible?
- Can you think of examples today where we/people tend to wrongly read and apply what the Bible says?

## PRAYER POINTS

- Ask God to help you to learn how to rightly divide the Word of God - according to 2 Timothy 2:15.
- Repent from an indifferent or lackadaisical attitude towards Scripture.

## NOTES

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# WORKSHEET

## SESSION 4 | ROOTED

# HOW TO LET THE SCRIPTURES SPEAK

## THE AIM

In this session, we get stuck into some very practical skills, which will help us to read the Bible in such a way that we allow the Bible to 'speak for itself' rather than to 'read into the text' from our preconceived assumptions.

## THE OVERVIEW

In the next two sessions, we will be working through **3 Steps of Interpretation**:

- **Exegesis**: What did it mean for them?
- **Identify principles**: Universal truths
- **Application**: What does it mean for me?

In this session, we will be dealing with **Step 1: Exegesis**.

## THE KEY TRUTHS AND SCRIPTURES TO CONSIDER

As we read our Bibles, there are four contextual considerations:

As we read our Bibles there are 4 contextual considerations:

- Textual context  
*"What I feared has come upon me; what I dreaded has happened to me." Job 3:23*
- Cultural context  
*"Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman." John 4:27*
- Original language
- Whole bible context (1 Corinthians 7:10,11), (Mark 10:11, 12), (Matthew 5:32), (Malachai 2)

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Which of the contextual questions possibly get most neglected in Bible study?
- What is the danger of rushing too quickly to apply Scripture directly to our own lives?
- What are some modern issues which might cause us to 'read ideas into the text'?
- What are some things you would like to do differently when studying the Bible in future?

## PRAYER POINTS

- Repent of imposing our own meanings into the text instead of making an effort to hear what it is saying; and “cherry-picking” Scriptures to support what we believe.
- Commit to put our fears aside and hear what God wants for our lives.

## NOTES

[illegible]

# WORKSHEET

## SESSION 5 | ROOTED

# APPLYING SCRIPTURE TODAY

## THE AIM

We will look at how to apply Scripture into our modern context the way it was intended.

## THE OVERVIEW

We are still working through the **3 Steps of Interpretation**:

- **Exegesis**: What did it mean for them?
- **Identify principles**: Universal truths
- **Application**: What does it mean for me?

In this session, we will be dealing with the remaining two steps: Identify principles and Application.

## THE KEY TRUTHS AND SCRIPTURES TO CONSIDER

- Is it repeated in the New Testament?  
*"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'" (Mat 5:27)*
- Is it revoked in the New Testament?
  - \* E.g. The sacrificial system, unclean foods, sabbath

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- What are some bad ways of dealing with difficult passages like we've dealt with today?
- Can you think of other passages which are similarly difficult?
- How would you deal with those passages now?

## PRAYER POINTS

- Repent of disregarding difficult passages of Scripture

## NOTES

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