



# FINDING GOD IN A POST-CHRISTIAN WORLD

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President



# **FINDING GOD IN A POST-CHRISTIAN WORLD**

- What post-Christian means
- Where people look for God
- How to hear from God every day of your life



# POST-CHRISTIAN

- World—about 30% claim Christianity
- World—4300 religions
- USA—no religious affiliation doubled since 1990
- USA—atheist or agnostic up four fold since 1990



# POST-CHRISTIAN

- Scientific humanism and socialism
- Secularism—science is the only source of truth
- Individualism—truth and significance is whatever each person wants it to be



## ROMANS 1:18-25

*“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.*”



## ROMANS 1:18-25

*For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.*



## ROMANS 1:18-25

*Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen."*



# LOOKING FOR GOD CREATION

*“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes. His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.”*

Romans 1:20

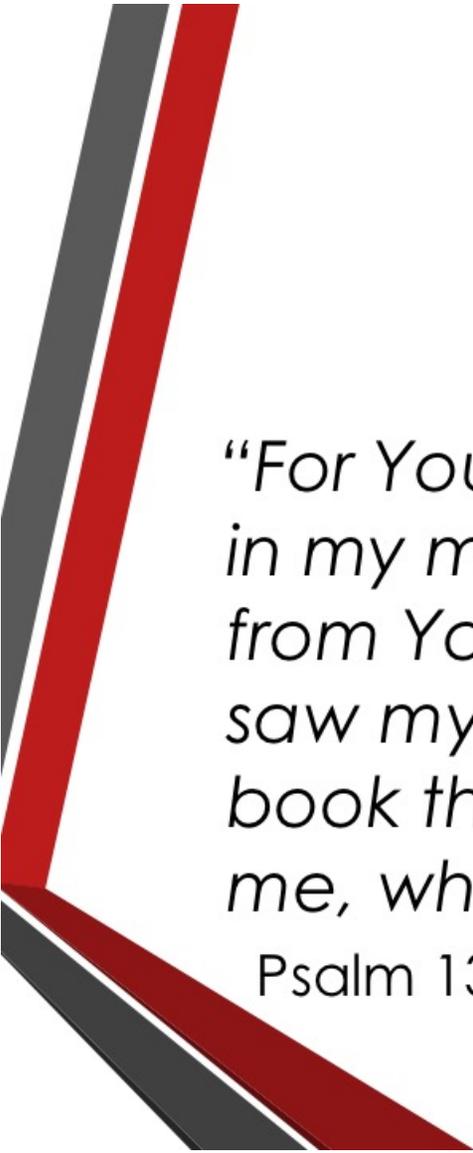


# LOOKING FOR GOD PEOPLE

*“Christ in you, the hope of glory.”* Colossians 1:27

# LOOKING FOR GOD CHURCH





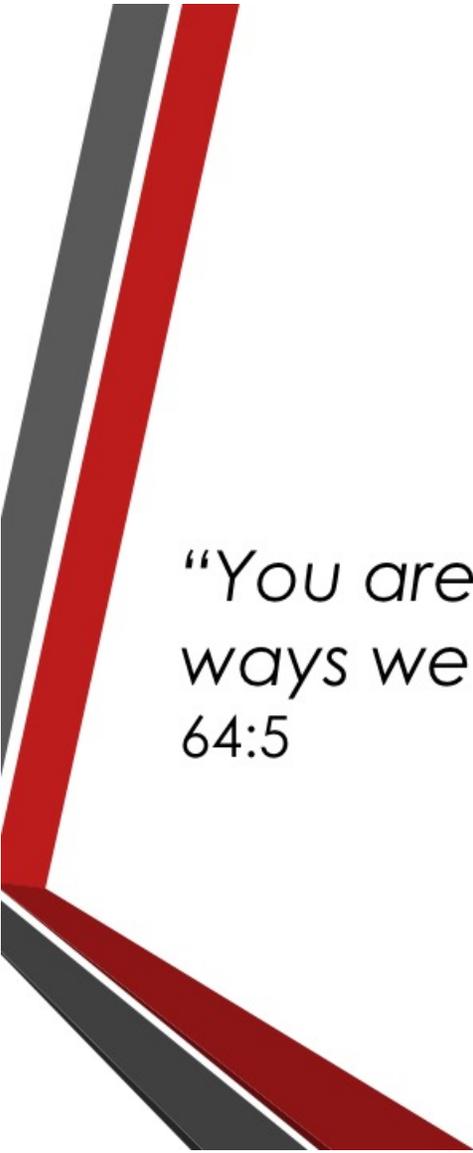
# LOOKING FOR GOD INNER MAN

*“For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb...My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret...Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.”*

Psalm 139:13-16

# LOOKING FOR GOD CREATION





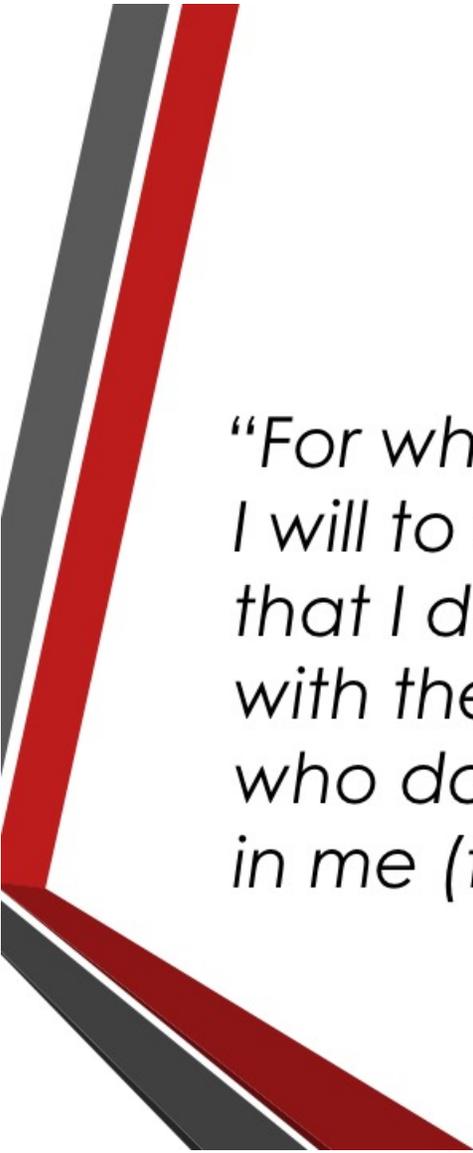
# LOOKING FOR GOD PEOPLE

*“You are indeed angry, for we have sinned—In these ways we continue, and we need to be saved.”* Isaiah 64:5



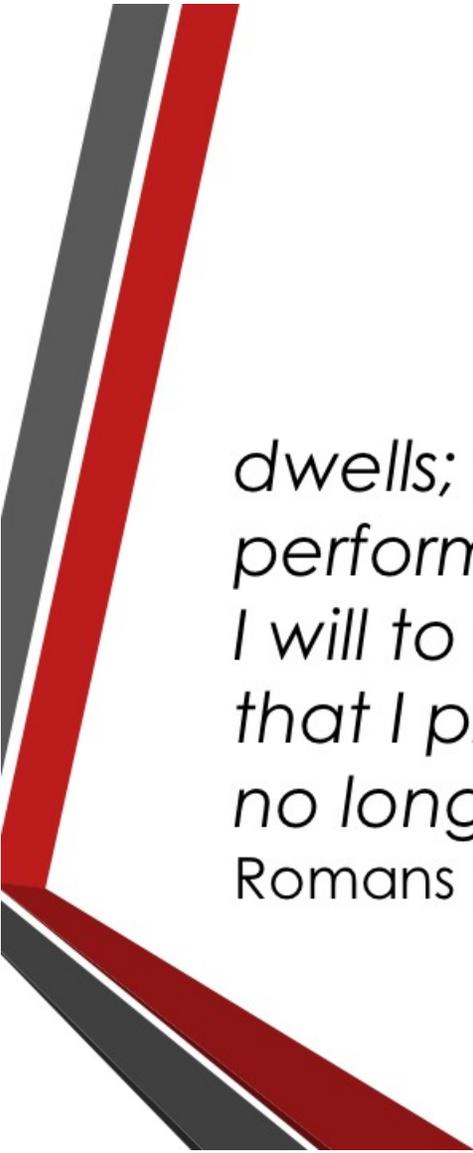
# LOOKING FOR GOD CHURCH

*“Now Eli was very old; and he heard everything his sons did to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. So he said to them, “Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all the people.” 1 Samuel 2:22-23*



## LOOKING FOR GOD INNER MAN

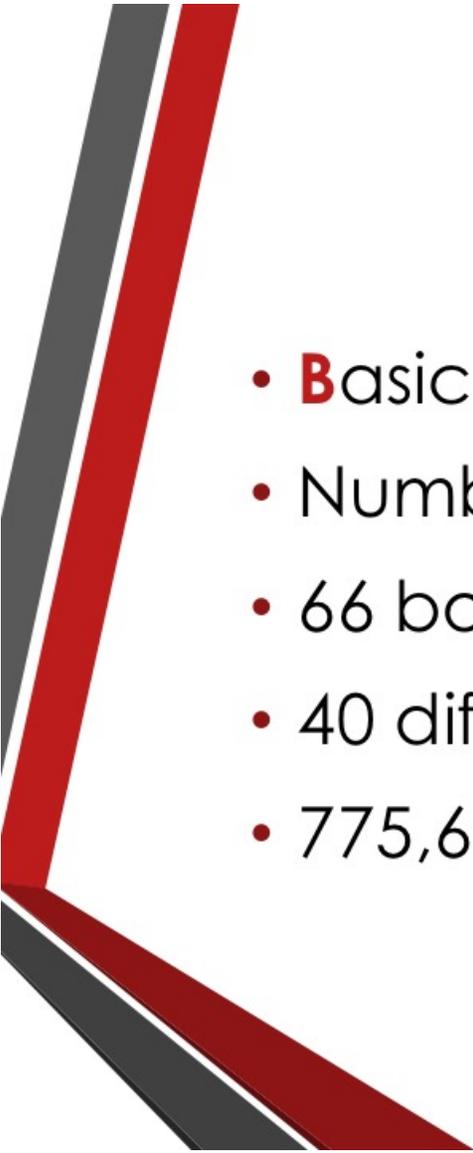
*“For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do. If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good. But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good*



# LOOKING FOR GOD INNER MAN

*dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me."*

Romans 7:15-20



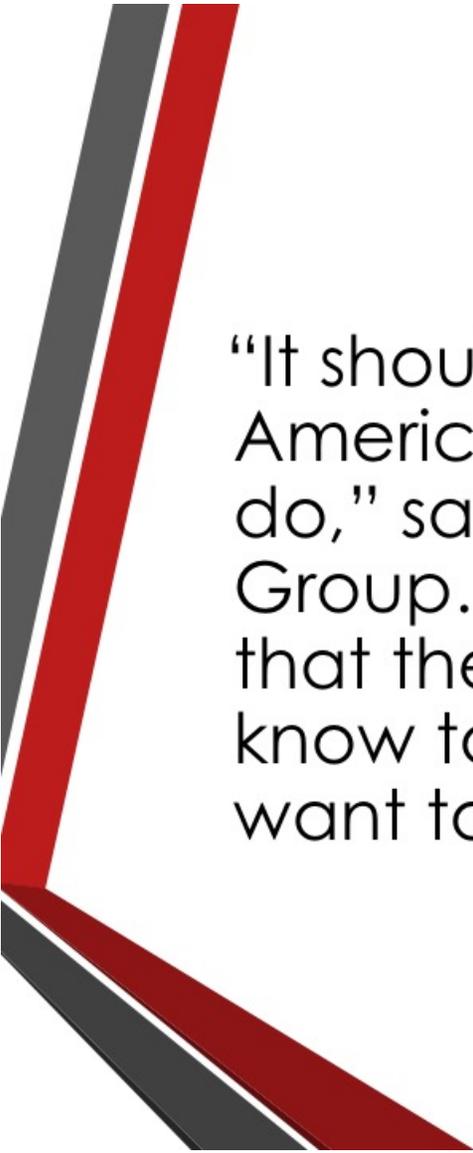
# THE BIBLE

- **B**asic **I**nstructions **B**efore **L**ife **E**veryday
- Number one best seller of all time
- 66 books
- 40 different authors over 1 600 years
- 775,693 words, 31,102 verses



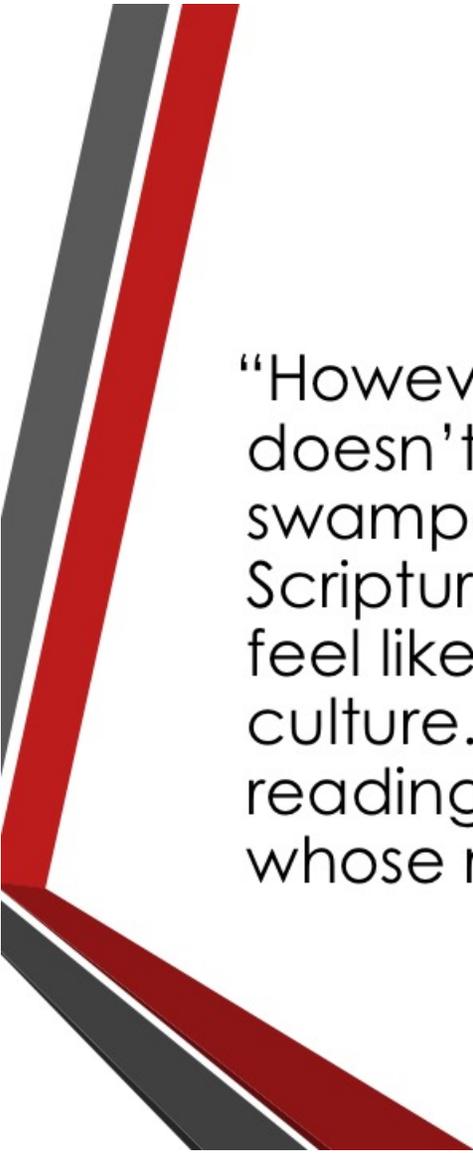
## CHRISTIANS & THE BIBLE

“Most Americans ...are not satisfied with their current level of Scripture reading....A majority... express a desire to read the Bible more than they currently do...born-again and practicing Christians are the most likely to desire more Bible-reading in their day-to-day lives.”



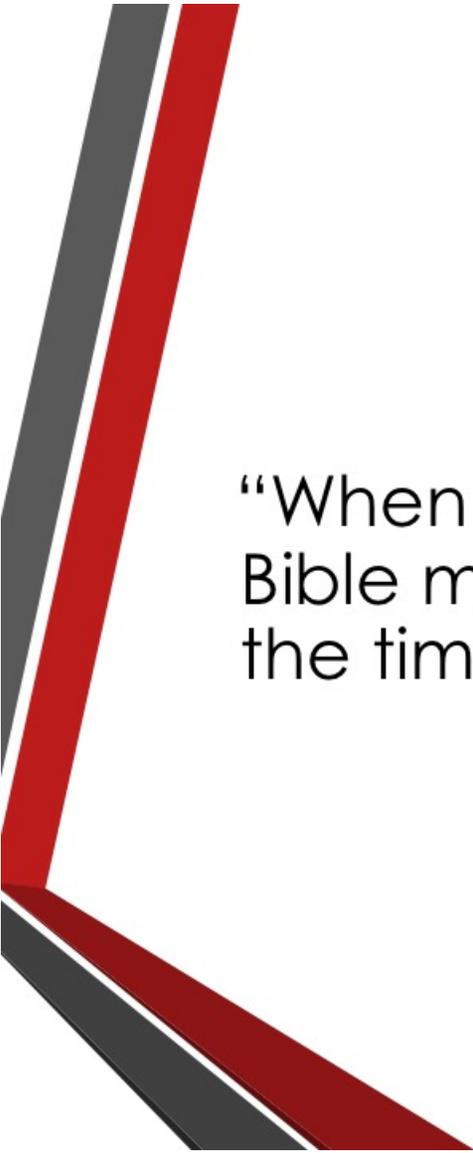
## CHRISTIANS & THE BIBLE

“It should not come as a surprise that the majority of Americans wish they read Scripture more than they do,” says Roxanne Stone, editor in chief of Barna Group...”After all, two-thirds of Americans agree that the Bible contains everything you need to know to live a meaningful life — why wouldn’t you want to read such a book more often?”



## CHRISTIANS & THE BIBLE

“However...it’s a goal that for most people probably doesn’t feel necessary to survival and so can easily get swamped by the day-to-day demands of a busy life... Scripture reading takes time and focus—two things that feel like scarcities in today’s fast-paced and on-demand culture. Like the exercise, like the diet, regular Bible reading does not offer instant pay-off. It’s a discipline whose rewards are reaped over the long-haul.”



# CHRISTIANS & THE BIBLE

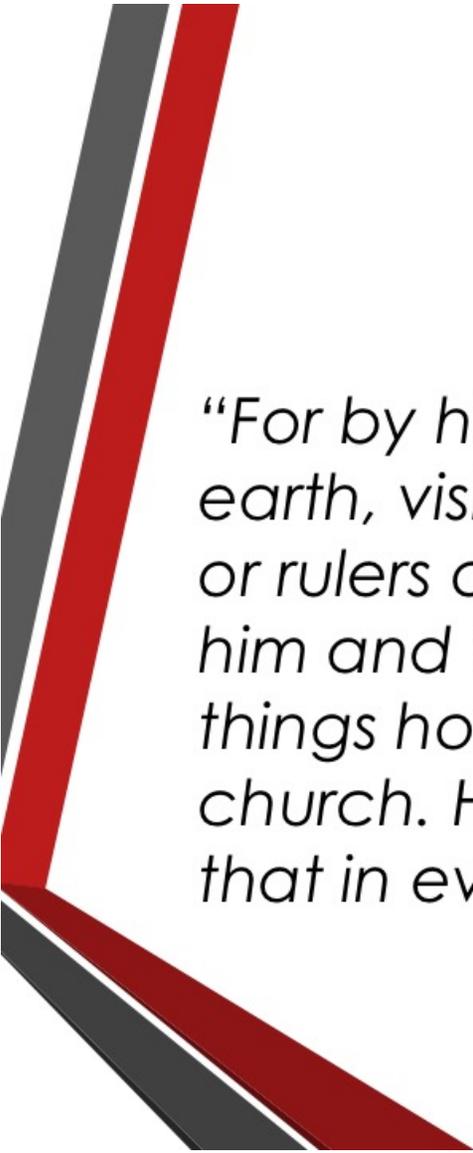
“When people go from feeling they should read the Bible more to needing to read the Bible, they find the time.”



# CHRISTIANS & THE BIBLE

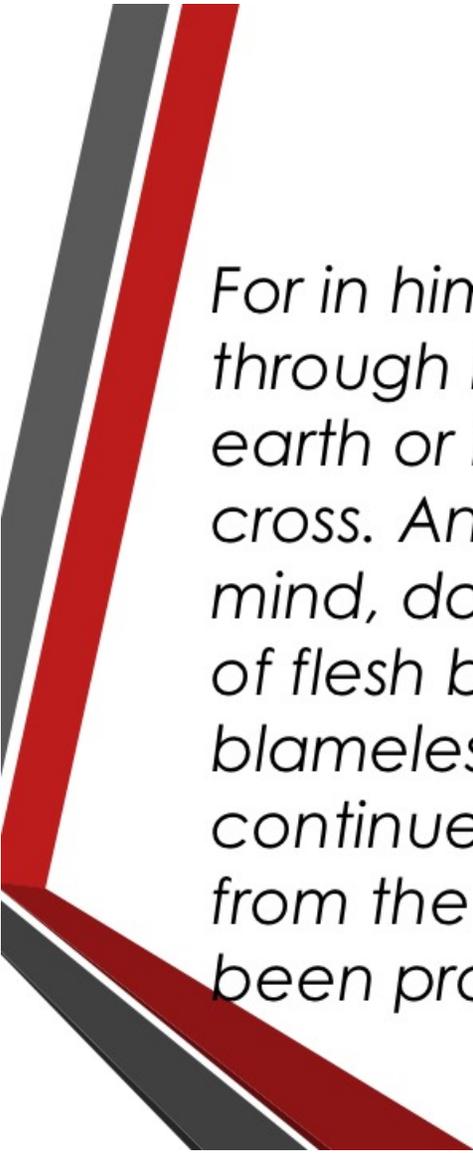
- Christians are well intentioned when it comes to the Bible. We believe the Bible is the Word of God!
- The middle ground related to the Bible seems to be disappearing. The decrease of Bible-neutral and Bible-friendly people and the increase of Bible-antagonists suggest that more people are picking a side.
- Because of our neglect of God's Word, we are becoming Biblically illiterate.





## COLOSSIANS 1:16-23

*“For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.*”



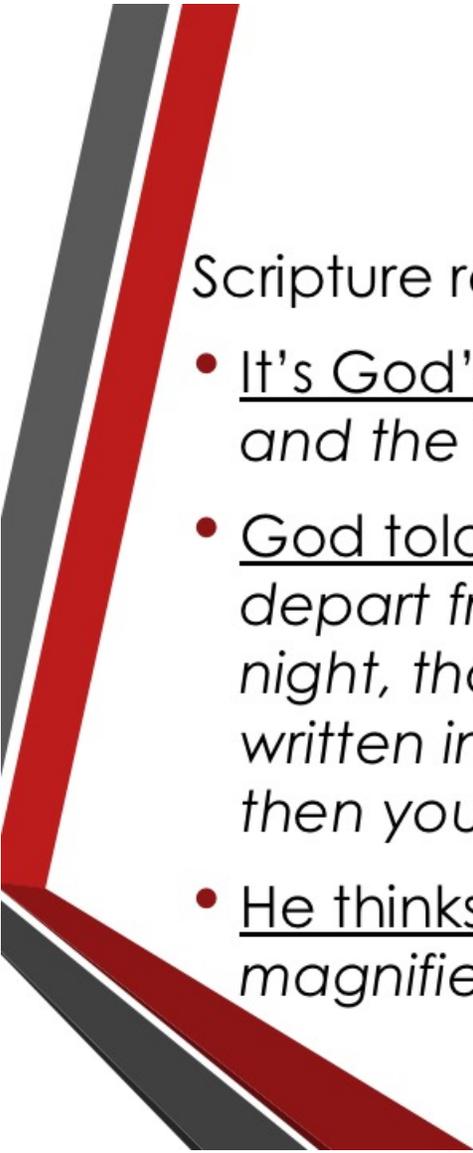
## COLOSSIANS 1:16-23

*For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven..."*



# WHY READ THE BIBLE?

- Develop a dynamic relationship with God
- Be transformed
- Know answers to life



# WHY READ THE BIBLE?

Scripture reasons:

- It's God's Word -- John 1:1, *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."*
- God told you to -- Joshua 1:8, *"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."*
- He thinks it's pretty important -- Psalm 138:2, *"For You have magnified Your word above all Your name."*



# HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

- From beginning to end
- Daily Bible reading calendars/devotions
- One year Bible
- Chronological
- A book at a time

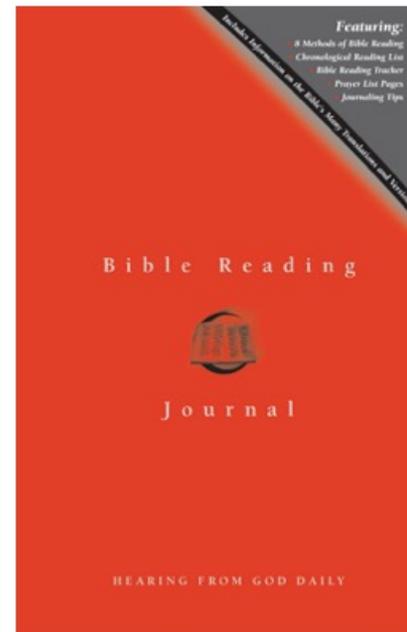
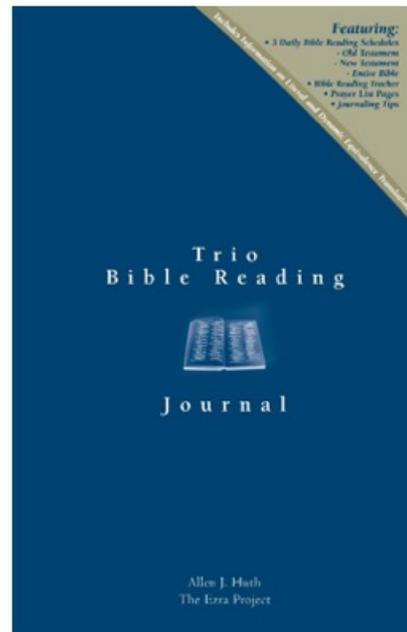


# HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

- A book a month
- New Testament only
- Old Testament only
- Let it fall open
- With commentaries
- ADDBIBLE

# JOURNAL

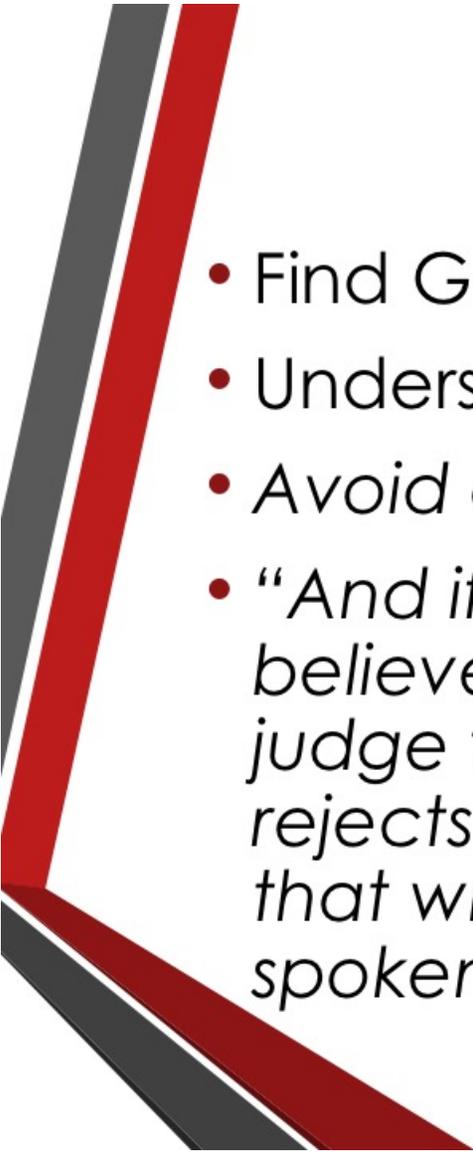
It will change the way you read the Bible





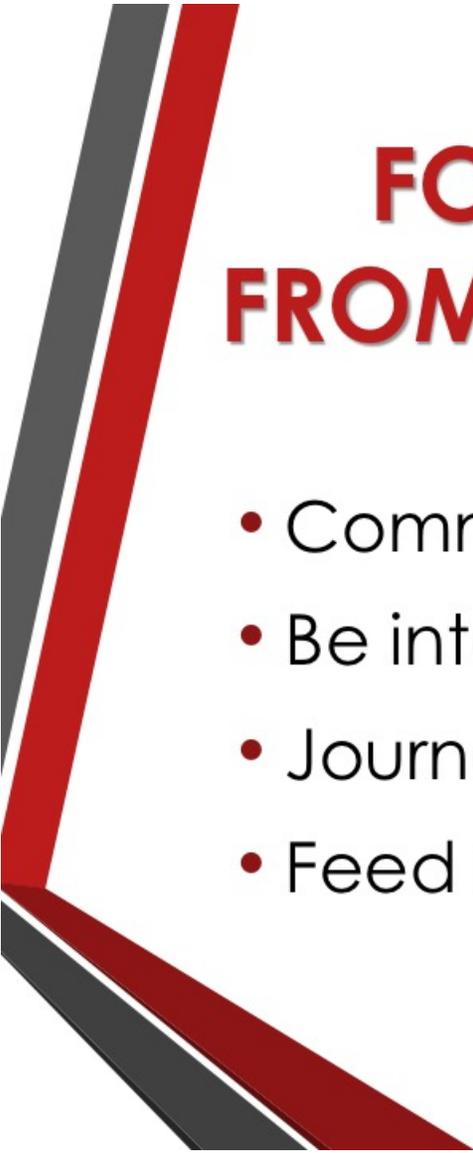
# APPLICATIONS FROM DAILY BIBLE READING

- Find the true meaning of love
- Allow God to touch your life



# CHALLENGE

- Find God
- Understand God
- *Avoid eternal judgment and condemnation:*
- *“And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.” John 12:47-48*



# **FOUR STEPS TO FIND AND HEAR FROM GOD EVERY DAY OF YOUR LIFE**

- Commit to daily Bible reading
- Be intentional
- Journal
- Feed me, myself, and I



## COMMIT TO DAILY BIBLE READING

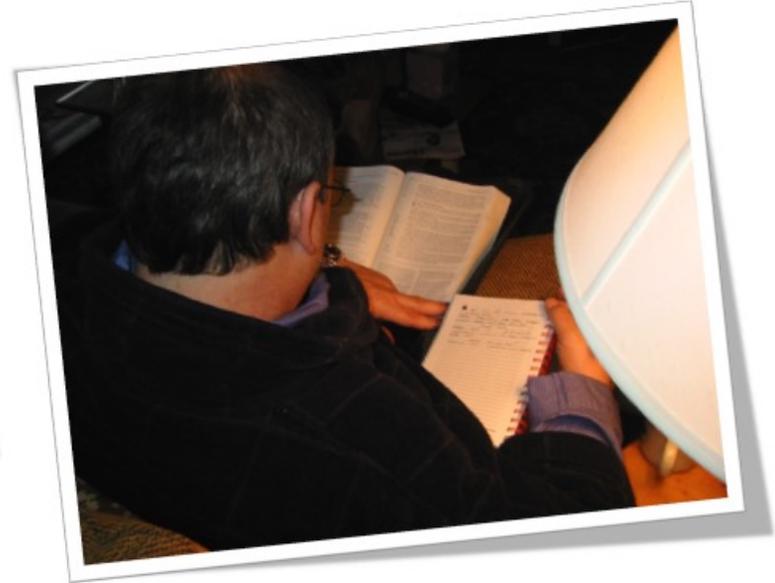
- Commit to find God in His Word daily, every day
- Change your belief about God's Word to behavior in God's Word.
- *“You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me...”* John 5:39.



## BE INTENTIONAL

- Decide why you want to read Scripture
- Decide your Bible reading method
- Do you want to really find God?
- Do you want to understand His ways?
- Are you willing to live life according to a Biblical world view?

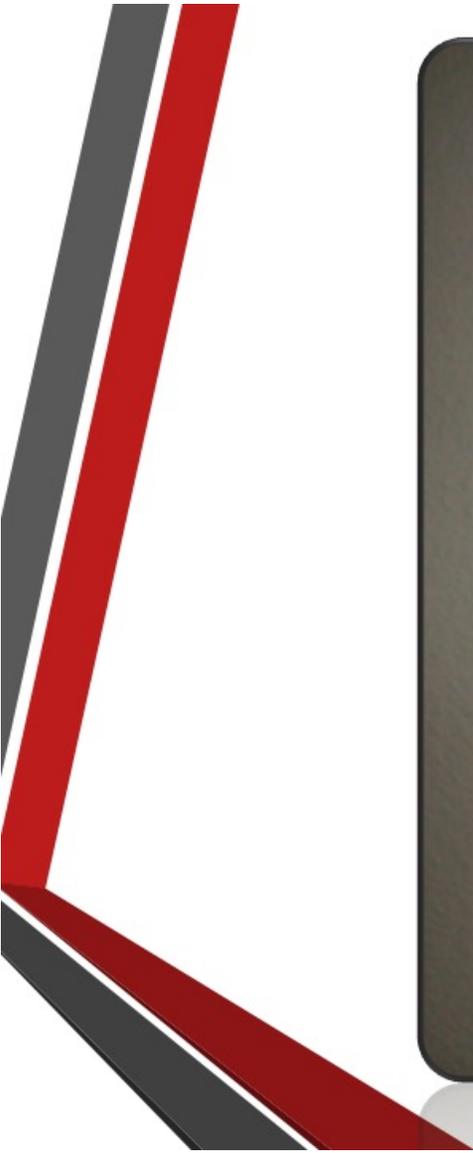
# JOURNAL





## **FEED ME, MYSELF, AND I**

- Let God minister to your inner man
- Hebrews 4:12 says the Word of God pierces between soul and spirit, between joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of your heart
- Nothing else goes that deep, only God's Word



HOLY BIBLE  
KING JAMES VERSION

HOLY BIBLE  
KING JAMES VERSION  
NEW LETTER VERSION  
LONDON

Holy Bible  
PRONOUNCING  
NEW LETTER TEACHERS' EDITION

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE  
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