



The Word...To Go | Shawn Johnson | 3.8.20

Weekly Study

S T A R T

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

What is your favorite song to listen to in the springtime?

S H A R E

Welcome to our final week of Take-Home Faith. This year we are getting serious about equipping the church with the necessary tools to follow Jesus throughout the week. Christianity is not about creating churchgoers; it's about building Jesus followers. The calling of Jesus is to follow him in every part and every hour of your life!

This week, Shawn finished our series by talking about the importance of reading your Bible.

Before we jump in, take some time to jump in with your group by answering these questions:

Rate your week on a scale of 1 to 10. Why did you pick that number?

Describe your week with one word.

How have your take-home assignments gone for you?

G R O W

Read Romans 8:1

How often do you read your Bible? Do you ever feel guilty for the way you answer that question?

Some Christians carry a lot of guilt around for how little they read or know about the Bible. Before we go any further, remember condemnation is not helpful. God isn't mad at you for not reading your Bible in the past; He's just excited that you are ready to dive in today. Whether you've been studying Scripture for years, or have no idea about any of it, today we all have an opportunity to read and learn together. As a Group, decide to leave condemnation out as you jump into this study.

Read Exodus 3:1-14

What is the biggest obstacle standing in your way of reading Scripture more?

Exodus 3 is a pivotal moment in Scripture. The Israelites are slaves in Egypt, and Moses is nowhere to be found. In the passage you just read, God meets Moses in the middle of the night in the form of a burning bush and calls him to return to Egypt to set them free.

The burning bush must have been a spectacular sight. However, the true transformation didn't come from the tree; it came from God's voice. At Red Rocks, we go to great lengths to create excellent weekend experiences and opportunities for you to meet together in groups, and we will continue to do that. But we are well aware that the real transformative power is in the Word of God. Like Moses, we have an opportunity to meet with God every day and experience what he believes about us by reading our Bible!

As Shawn reminded us this week, every time we open our Bibles, we are entering into Holy Ground. Moses had an experience with God that dramatically altered the trajectory of his life. The same thing can happen to us every time we sit down to read and respond to God's Word!

Does this passage in Exodus 3 change the way you approach Scripture?

Have you ever experienced the Bible transforming your life? Tell your group about it.

M O V E

Read Ephesians 6:10-20

What do you know about this passage? Who wrote it? Who was he writing to?

Which item of the armor of God stuck out to you the most? Why?

The Word of God is a weapon we can use to fight back against the enemy. In the famous armor of God prayer, Paul refers to the Word as the sword: "*Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God*" (Ephesians 6:17). Notice how all the other pieces of armor are for defense (helmet, shield, etc.), but the sword is for OFFENSE. God equips us with His Word so that we can fight back against fear, worry, anxiety, and temptation.

Watch how Jesus responds in the wilderness when Satan tries to tempt him: "But he answered, "It is written, *“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God”* (Matthew 4:4).

Jesus understood the importance of reading and memorizing Scripture, so He could carry it with Him everywhere He went. This week we have the opportunity to do the same thing. Practice implementing Scripture into your 167 by completing the following Take-Home Assignment.

Take-Home Assignment #6: Memorize Scripture

Memorizing Scripture is like putting arrows in your quiver. Below are a series of passages to choose from that will help you fight back against the different challenge's life throws at you. Pick one and commit it to memory this week by reciting it back to yourself three times every day!

Anxiety: Philippians 4:6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Trials: James 1:2-3

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Worry: Matthew 6:34

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Overthinking: Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Fear: Exodus 14:14

The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.

Celebration: Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Gratitude: Psalm 9:1

I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart;

I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

P R A Y

As a group, spend some time praying for the things you wrote down above! If you are in a coed group, consider breaking up into men and women's groups to share more freely.

T O G O

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12