

<u>Two-week studies:</u> Seeing the Savior (Unit 1-Eph 1, Unit 2-various) Pleasing God (1 Thessalonians) Connected (1 John) Rooted in Christ (John) A Quest for Meaning (Ecclesiastes)	<u>One-week studies:</u> Wisdom (Proverbs) In Christ (Colossians) Satisfied in God Alone (Habakkuk) Alive with Christ (Ephesians)
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## Seeing the Savior

- *Who am I?*
- *Where do I fit in?*
- *Does it matter what I believe?*
- *Does God really love me?*
- *What does God have to say about all the issues in our world today?*
- *Why is the world so confusing?*
- *Does it really matter if I follow God's Word or not?*
- *How can I deal with people and situations that make me afraid?*
- *How am I supposed to obey God when it feels like so much has changed in the world?*

In the midst of all the confusion and chaos, it is God's word that gives us hope; it is God's word that gives us a sure foundation; it is God's word that gives us light to **see the Savior**.

And when we look first at Jesus as he is revealed in the Bible, then we can see ourselves more clearly. And when we are united to Christ, everything changes--our redemption is sure, our adoption is final, our future is set, our inheritance is guaranteed--all because we belong to him.

### Unit 1, Day 1      **IN CHRIST**

**Scripture:** Ephesians 1:1-14

**Aims:** **Know:** that those who are united to Christ have every spiritual blessing.

**Feel:** encouraged that God showers his people with so many blessings through his Son.

**Do:** make a plan to remind each other of the great privilege of being *in Christ*.

### Unit 1, Day 2      **WHO'S DOING ALL THIS?**

**Scripture:** Ephesians 1:3-14

**Aims:** **Know:** that God is active in the world, carrying out his plan of redemption.

**Feel:** the desire to praise God for his many actions on our behalf.

**Do:** brainstorm ideas of how to pay more attention to God's word at home.

**Unit 1, Day 3            WHERE DO WE FIT IN?**

**Scripture:** Ephesians 1:3-14; 2:8; Acts 17:24-25

**Aims:** **Know:** that salvation is a gift from God.

**Feel:** humbled and grateful that Jesus has provided everything for our salvation.

**Do:** plan a time of worship for this great salvation.

**Unit 1, Day 4            WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?**

**Scripture:** Ephesians 1:1-14; 2:6-7, 15-16; 3:6, 10-11, 20-21; Revelation 21:1-5

**Aims:** **Know:** that our salvation is a part of a much bigger picture.

**Feel:** privileged to be a part of God's kingdom and plan.

**Do:** have the opportunity to trust in Christ.

**Unit 1, Day 5            WHAT ARE WE TO DO?**

**Scripture:** Ephesians 1:1-14; 5:1-10

**Aims:** **Know:** that the New Testament commands for us make sense and are possible only because of what God has done for us through Christ.

**Feel:** the desire to identify with and obey Christ because of all he has done for us.

**Do:** brainstorm ideas of how to keep in mind the great things God has done for us.

**Unit 2, Day 1            WHO ARE WE?**

**Scripture:** Genesis 1 and 2; Psalm 8:5

**Aims:** **Know:** that God created people in his own image.

**Feel:** that it is a great privilege to be an image-bearer of God.

**Do:** consider how viewing others, as well as yourself, as image-bearers would affect how you treat them.

**Unit 2, Day 2            WHAT HAPPENED TO US?**

**Scripture:** Genesis 2:15-25; 3

**Aims:** **Know:** that God designed marriage to unite one man and one woman to become one flesh, but Adam's and Eve's fall into sin brought distortion to that design, as well as to all other areas of human life.

**Feel:** that our only hope for restoration is repentance and belief in the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Do:** have the opportunity to repent and turn to Christ.

**Unit 2, Day 3            WHAT CAN WE DEPEND ON?**

**Scripture:** Matthew 4:1-11; 19:3-9

**Aims:** **Know:** that Jesus put his confidence in God's word as reliable and unchanging.

**Feel:** confident that God's word is a wise and sure foundation.

**Do:** choose a way to encourage one another to stand firm on God's word.

**Unit 2, Day 4**

**HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?**

**Scripture: Ephesians 5:15-21**

**Aims: Know:** that we need not only God's word to guide us, but also his Holy Spirit.

**Feel:** that being under the influence of the Holy Spirit is desirable.

**Do:** pray for one another to find a good church so they can continue to learn and grow in their faith when they go home. Write notes of encouragement.

**Unit 2, Day 5**

**IT'S A MYSTERY**

**Scripture: Ephesians 1:4; 5:22-32**

**Aims: Know:** that God designed marriage to be a picture of Christ and his people, the church.

**Feel:** that the institution of marriage is sacred and holy and loses its meaning when people change it.

**Do:** pray for one another to have the courage to hold fast to God's design and meaning for marriage.

**PLEASING GOD**  
A Study in 1 Thessalonians  
For Teens

**What does it look like to be ALL IN?**

For the Thessalonians it meant a whole new way of life. So many things were different. Their **worship** of idols changed to serving the living and true God. Their **loyalty** switched from Caesar to a different king—Jesus. Their **actions** began to reflect the influence this King Jesus had in their lives; they started producing works of faith and love and an amazing steadiness in the face of persecution. And their **goals** for the future changed. They now looked forward with eagerness and confidence as they waited for their risen King to return, change their lowly bodies to be like his glorious one, and take them home to live with him forever.

**Why is it hard to be ALL IN?**

Life is hard, and following Jesus often makes it harder. The world’s culture and its way of thinking appeals to us because it looks so much easier. Swimming against the current while waiting for a king we’ve never seen requires so much effort!

**How do we keep going?**

Love one another more and more, says Paul. Well, that can’t happen if I stay by myself. To love my Christian brothers and sisters more and more I need to spend time with them—listening to their stories, sharing meals, working together, helping, encouraging, forgiving, teaching, praying. The camp environment provides plenty of opportunities for that. The local church environment can be a bit more challenging—first finding a church that preaches the Word faithfully and then staying involved with those very imperfect people when it seems easier to just have my own private devotions and call it a day.

But it is the Lord himself (1 Thessalonians 2:12-13; 5:23) who will cause you, Christian community (not you, individual Christian), to increase in love and establish you in holiness and sanctify you completely. And what a relief (!) “He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it” (1 Thess 5:24).

**Unit 1, Day 1      THIS JESUS**

**Scripture:** 1 Thessalonians 1; Acts 17:1-9

**Aims:** **Know:** that the salvation that **this Jesus** brings changes to a person’s life.

**Feel:** that these changes (some welcome, some not so welcome) are to be expected and even desired.

**Do:** consider if changes have come to their own lives because of their faith in Christ. If not, what might that indicate?

**Unit 1, Day 2**

**FAITH, ♥, and HOPE**

**Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 1**

**Aims: Know:** that growing as a Christian after salvation takes active work and service and perseverance.

**Feel:** that even though the excitement and newness will wear off, following Jesus is worth it.

**Do:** pray for one another to persevere in their walk with Christ, using 1 Thessalonians 1 as an example.

**Unit 1, Day 3**

**SHARING OUR OWN SELVES**

**Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8**

**Aims: Know:** that those who are committed to Jesus share not only the gospel, but also their own lives.

**Feel:** the desire to give of themselves to others.

**Do:** practice being gentle and sharing their lives with someone they don't know very well.

**Unit 1, Day 4**

**WALK WORTHY**

**Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-20**

**Aims: Know:** that when God calls us into his kingdom and his family, his Word is what changes our hearts.

**Feel:** that his Word is valuable and necessary to be able to walk worthy of God.

**Do:** write a note of encouragement to a cabinmate to keep trying to walk worthy and relying upon God's Word.

**Unit 1, Day 5**

**DESTINED FOR THIS**

**Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 3:1-10**

**Aims: Know:** that preparing for affliction helps Christians to persevere in their walk of faith.

**Feel:** that preparing for affliction is important.

**Do:** make a preparation plan for when affliction comes.

**Unit 2, Day 1**

**WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?**

**Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13**

**Aims: Know:** that being holy before God includes being loving toward others.

**Feel:** that increasing in love for one another is a difficult but worthwhile goal.

**Do:** make a plan to focus on loving one another.

**Unit 2, Day 2            MORE AND MORE**

**Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12**

**Aims: Know:** that God cares about every nook and cranny of our lives.

**Feel:** that pleasing God by loving others ought to be our greatest desire.

**Do:** evaluate a list of ideas of what to say to a struggling Christian friend.

**Unit 2, Day 3            ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER**

**Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

**Aims: Know:** that the resurrection of the dead is a major part of the Christian's hope.

**Feel:** encouraged by the thought of our bodily resurrection.

**Do:** write a note of encouragement about the resurrection to a cabinmate.

**Unit 2, Day 4            THE DAY OF THE LORD**

**Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

**Aims: Know:** that the Day of the Lord will bring judgment (destruction) to the ungodly and salvation to believers.

**Feel:** how important it is to keep in mind the Day of the Lord as we follow Jesus.

**Do:** consider how to encourage one another and build one another up in the faith.

**Unit 2, Day 5            SPIRIT, SOUL AND BODY**

**Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24**

**Aims: Know:** that Christians need the church community to find the teaching, fellowship, and encouragement to keep walking with Jesus.

**Feel:** the desire to participate in their church community.

**Do:** share ideas of how to find a good church and pray for one another to keep participating in their church community.

# Connected

## A study in 1 John

For Teens

Feeling alone and left out is common to all of us. It started when Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden. Since then people have been disconnected—from God and from each other. One of the beauties of the Gospel message is that we can be connected again!

The Bible tells us how God showed his love—by sending his Son to suffer and die for our sins. When we believe in the name of his beloved Son Jesus Christ, we are brought into fellowship with God.

But it doesn't end there. We are also connected to fellow believers. In fact, we *must* be connected to fellow believers. For we are all one family, one body, and we need each other. To grow in faith, to serve Christ, and to love our God requires us to love and serve and connect with his body, the church.

### Unit 1, Day 1            **CONNECTED TO THE WORD**

**Scripture:** 1 John 1:1-5; John 1:1-5; Genesis 1:1-5; 2 Timothy 3:16

**Aims:** **Know:** although the Bible was written over a period of hundreds of years and by many different people, it is all connected by the one true Author—God himself.

**Feel:** that the Bible is trustworthy and that Christians need it to know God.

**Do:** set a goal to help develop a strong connection with the Bible.

### Unit 1, Day 2            **CONNECTED TO GOD**

**Scripture:** 1 John 1:5-10

**Aims:** **Know:** that Jesus' blood allows us to have fellowship with him and with the Father.

**Feel:** that our only hope is in Christ alone.

**Do:** have the opportunity to confess sin and place trust in Christ.

**Supplies needed:** poster board with 1 John 1:1-5 written out; markers and a new poster board; index cards (6 for the Scripture Study and 1 for each camper in the Application.

### Unit 1, Day 3            **CONNECTED TO ONE ANOTHER**

**Scripture:** 1 John 1:1-10; Philippians 2:1-4

**Aims:** **Know:** that fellowship with God also means fellowship with other believers.

**Feel:** the desire to participate in a community of believers.

**Do:** choose a way to increase the fellowship within your cabin.

**Unit 1, Day 4            WALK THE WALK**

**Scripture:** 1 John 2:1-6; Philippians 2:1-8

**Aims:** **Know:** what Jesus willingly gave up to become a human and to serve and die for us.

**Feel:** grateful for his sacrifice and have the desire to live as he did.

**Do:** write a prayer to Jesus Christ the Righteous.

**Unit 1, Day 5            WHAT DOES JOY HAVE TO DO WITH IT?**

**Scripture:** 1 John 1:1 - 2:11

**Aims:** **Know:** that our joy increases as our connection to Christ and to other Christians increases.

**Feel:** that fellowship with God in Christ and fellowship with other Christians are both important.

**Do:** pray for one another to find good fellowship at home.

**Unit 2, Day 1            WHAT ARE YOUR CONNECTIONS?**

**Scripture:** 1 John 2:15-17; 1 John 1:3,7

**Aims:** **Know:** that loving the world is a trap that leads to death, but loving God through Jesus Christ leads to joy and eternal life.

**Feel:** that loving God is far more important and beneficial than loving the world.

**Do:** take stock of your connections and what they will lead to.

**Unit 2, Day 2            APPEARANCES CAN BE DECEIVING**

**Scripture:** 1 John 2:18-25

**Aims:** **Know:** that the danger of false teachers is serious, but God has provided what we need to stand fast.

**Feel:** that abiding in Christ—holding on to what we know about him—is what will keep us safe spiritually.

**Do:** practice finding scriptures to refute false statements.

**Unit 2, Day 3            COULD YOU SAY THAT ONE MORE TIME?**

**Scripture:** 1 John 2:24-28

**Aims:** **Know:** that abiding in Jesus is key to following him.

**Feel:** that we need help and can't live the Christian life on our own.

**Do:** encourage a cabinmate with a note to keep abiding in Jesus.



**Unit 2, Day 4            FAMILY CONNECTIONS**

**Scripture:** 1 John 2:29 – 3:10

**Aims:** **Know:** that the Bible teaches that all people are in one of two families—the family of God or the family of the devil.

**Feel:** that to be born of God and in his family is an amazing privilege and responsibility.

**Do:** have the opportunity to trust in Christ.

**Unit 2, Day 5            TALK IS CHEAP**

**Scripture:** 1 John 3:11-18; Genesis 3:14-15; 4:1-11; Psalm 38:19-20; Proverbs 15:8; 29:10; Matthew 23:33-35; Hebrews 11:4; 12:24

**Aims:** **Know:** what it looks like to love in deed and in truth, not just in talk.

**Feel:** that the love demonstrated by Jesus is the best kind of love.

**Do:** roleplay situations when loving another may be difficult.

# Rooted in Christ

## A Study in John

For Teens

To be rooted in Jesus, we first need to know who this Jesus is. For two weeks we will explore the seven I Am statements—metaphors that he used to describe himself:

I am the bread of life.  
I am the light of the world.  
I am the door of the sheep.  
I am the good shepherd.  
I am the resurrection and the life.  
I am the way, the truth, and the life.  
I am the true vine.

As he performs miracles, as he heals, as he converses with people (both friend and foe), as he draws closer to the time of his suffering and tortuous death, we will see what this man and what this God is truly like. And with fear and trembling and joy, we should stand amazed that he wants to abide in us and us in him. Forever.

### Unit 1, Day 1      I AM

**Scripture:** John 8:31-59

**Aims:** Know: that abiding in Jesus is not a popular thing to do.

Feel: that freedom from sin and from death makes following Jesus worth it.

Do: consider how our own reactions to Jesus' words line up—as true disciples or not.

### Unit 1, Day 2      I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

**Scripture:** John 1:9-13; 3:19-21; 8:1-12

**Aims:** Know: that the light of Jesus exposes the darkness of sin and brings forgiveness.

Feel: that acknowledging and confessing our sin to God may be painful, but is profitable.

Do: illustrate what it takes to move from darkness to light.

### Unit 1, Day 3      LIGHT FOR THE BLIND

**Scripture:** John 9

**Aims:** Know: that Jesus' light blinds some and gives sight to others.

Feel: how serious one's response to Jesus is.

Do: write a prayer of confession of things that hinder our own spiritual sight.

**Unit 1, Day 4            I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE**

**Scripture:** John 6:24-40

**Aims:** **Know:** that Jesus, the True Bread of heaven, gives eternal life and is the only one who can satisfy our souls.

**Feel:** that Jesus is the key to true and lasting contentment.

**Do:** compare the True Bread with other things we are often hungry for.

**Unit 1, Day 5            I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

**Scripture:** John 9:39-41, 10:1-18

**Aims:** **Know:** that Jesus loves his people and has the power to save them and take care of them.

**Feel:** that it is a privilege to be one of Jesus' sheep.

**Do:** determine ways to listen to and follow Jesus.

**Unit 2, Day 1            I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE**

**Scripture:** John 11:1-37

**Aims:** **Know:** that Jesus is the resurrection and the life and will one day resurrect us.

**Feel:** that knowing Jesus and what he has in store for us makes the suffering of this life bearable.

**Do:** list biblical truths that could help a person deal with the stresses in life.

**Unit 2, Day 2            GLORY OF THE RESURRECTION**

**Scripture:** John 11, 12:12-33

**Aims:** **Know:** that the glory of God was displayed not only in the raising of Lazarus, but also in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

**Feel:** that to endure suffering is a worthy way to follow Jesus.

**Do:** make bookmarks to remember what it meant for Jesus to be glorified.

**Unit 2, Day 3            I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE**

**Scripture:** John 18, 19:1-16

**Aims:** **Know:** that the truth of Christianity is not just a set of facts and beliefs, but it is embodied in a Person—Jesus Christ.

**Feel:** that Christ's truth and grace give us a firm foundation.

**Do:** worship Jesus for his grace and truth.

**Unit 2, Day 4            THE JESUS WAY**

**Scripture:** John 13:1-17, 21-35

**Aims:** **Know:** that living the way Jesus did takes time, patience, love, and humility.

**Feel:** that being fast and efficient may not be the best way to follow Jesus' example.

**Do:** roleplay different situations of acting the Jesus way.

**Unit 2, Day 5**

**I AM THE TRUE VINE**

**Scripture:** John 15:1-13

**Aims:** **Know:** that our union with Christ—being connected to him or abiding in him—is the key to living the Christian life and bearing fruit.

**Feel:** that abiding in Jesus is more desirable than anything else.

**Do:** transform a checklist of things to do into ways to stay close to Jesus and abide in him.

# *A Quest for Meaning*

## A study in Ecclesiastes Unit 1

For Teens

Pursuing happiness and looking for meaning in life is a common quest. Young and old, rich and poor, people seek it. But the harder we look, the more elusive it seems to be. King Solomon, David's son, perhaps the wisest man in the world, also found that to be true, as he reveals in the book of Ecclesiastes. Why did he find life so empty and meaningless? Why do wealth, fame, power, and pleasure not satisfy us?

It's good to take a look at the big picture—how the world got to be in such a mess, what is God's answer to this vanity, and how we can live a meaningful and hopeful life in the midst of such chaos and corruption. By looking to King Jesus, that other Son of David, we find the joy, the hope, and the meaning that will quench our thirst and satisfy our hunger.

### **Unit 1, Day 1            A WISH COME TRUE**

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 1:1-18, 12:9-14

**Aims:** **Know:** that nothing on this earth satisfies.

**Feel:** no confidence in finding meaning in life apart from God.

**Do:** write questions to evaluate one's quests in life.

### **Unit 1, Day 2            HOW DID WE GET HERE?**

**Scripture:** Genesis 1:27-31, 2:15-17, 3:1-24, Galatians 1:1-5

**Aims:** **Know:** that God's perfect created world became this present evil age because of Adam's and Eve's disobedience and will be fixed only by Christ's obedience.

**Feel:** grateful that Jesus was willing to die for us.

**Do:** Plan a worship service to give God glory for his wonderful plan to rescue us.

### **Unit 1, Day 3            WHAT IS THE ANSWER TO THIS VANITY?**

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 2:12-23; 1 Corinthians 15:12-19, 51-58

**Aims:** **Know:** that a meaningful life doesn't depend upon a certain kind of job, but upon knowing the risen Christ.

**Feel:** that resurrection is our great hope.

**Do:** have the opportunity to trust in Christ.

### **Unit 1, Day 4            THINGS NOT SEEN**

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 2:24-25; 5:18-20; 8:15; 9:7-10

**Aims:** **Know:** that we can find joy in our pursuits in this life as long as we realize that what we see is not all there is.

**Feel:** that God is near and can be trusted.

**Do:** write a note of encouragement to a cabinmate to keep seeking God.

## **Unit 1, Day 5**

## **FEAR OF THE LORD**

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 3:1-14; 5:1-7

**Aims:** **Know:** that the quests we undertake in this life are not meaningless if they are coupled with the fear of the Lord.

**Feel:** that to fear God is a wise thing to do.

**Do:** write a prayer about their quests in life.

# *A Quest for Meaning*

## **A study in Ecclesiastes Unit 2**

For Teens

Looking far into the future is not something that teens spend much time doing. Yet, Solomon advised that. And not just five, ten, or twenty years ahead, but even into old age. Why? Because what we sow now will come to fruition then. If we humble ourselves before God now, we will know where to turn to for comfort and hope in our waning years. If we put off following Jesus now, we will have little desire or ability to follow him later. If we give up doing good works because we see no results now, we will never reap a harvest of righteousness later.

We should even look beyond the grave to get a true picture of the worth of our quests. A quest that ends at death gives no meaning to life. The quest that lasts forever (loving and serving the Lord Jesus Christ) brings meaning, no matter what our circumstances are. Rich or poor, healthy or sick, comfortable or suffering, our Risen Lord offers us himself to sustain us throughout this life and the next.

## **Unit 2, Day 1**

## **SOW AND REAP**

**Scripture:** Galatians 6:7-8; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; John 14:6

**Aims:** **Know:** that we all are spiritual sowers and will one day reap what we have sown.

**Feel:** that how we live our lives matters.

**Do:** make a plan of how to pursue a personal quest.

## **Unit 2, Day 2**

## **EXCUSES, EXCUSES**

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 11:1-4; Luke 11:23

**Aims:** **Know:** that though we may excuse ourselves from scattering seeds of righteousness (or kindness), God does not.

**Feel:** the desire to stop making excuses for ourselves.

**Do:** make a plan to encourage one another to look for opportunities to scatter seeds of kindness.

**Unit 2, Day 3            DON'T GIVE UP!**

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 11:1-6

**Aims:** **Know:** that the results of the seeds that we sow are in God's hands.

**Feel:** that perseverance is what is required of us, not great results.

**Do:** write letters to encourage themselves to not give up.

**Unit 2, Day 4            FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE EARTH**

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 11:7-10; Psalm 71:17-21

**Aims:** **Know:** that the joys of this earthly life will one day end, and our ultimate happiness can be found only in the risen Christ.

**Feel:** that the quest to know and follow Christ is more important than any other quest.

**Do:** have the opportunity to trust in Christ.

**Unit 2, Day 5            ONE SHEPHERD, ONE SHEEP FLOCK**

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 12:1-7, 2 Timothy 2:22, Galatians 6:7-10

**Aims:** **Know:** that a quest to follow Jesus is not a solo journey.

**Feel:** the need to be involved in a good church.

**Do:** discuss what to look for in a church and encourage one another to find a family of believers.

# WISDOM

## A Study in Proverbs For Teens

Biblical wisdom is more than knowledge. Many knowledgeable, smart people often act very foolishly. Wisdom is using our knowledge in a way that pleases and honors the Sovereign God of the Universe.

The wisdom of Proverbs cannot be disconnected from that. For without the fear of the Lord, without the desire to obey him and the realization that we need him in order to obey, we would be left with a moralistic, self-help book that insults and rebels against the God who made us.

Yet, despite our greatest efforts, none of us can truly be wise and truly live how God wants us to live. Only Jesus has obeyed and honored him fully. So it is in Jesus that we find our refuge. He is our salvation; he is our righteousness; he is our holiness; he is our wisdom.

Should we just sit back then and say, “Jesus has done it; my efforts are useless, so I don’t need to do anything”? No! Our search to find wisdom (which Proverbs tells us over and over is really, really important) is not to obtain salvation, but to respond to that great salvation that was given us. When we throw in our lot with Christ, it’s not so we can coast into eternity. It’s so we can live as he did—under the cross now with the assurance of glory in the future. And Proverbs helps explain what it means to live under the cross—to deny ourselves daily and take up the cross and follow Jesus.

A couple of resources you might want to read as you prepare to lead this study are [http://douglaswebster.com/douglasdwebster.com/Stay\\_in\\_the\\_Story\\_files/Chapter20.pdf](http://douglaswebster.com/douglasdwebster.com/Stay_in_the_Story_files/Chapter20.pdf) and the 12th chapter (“Wisdom: Then and Now”) of *How to Read the Bible for all its Worth* by Gordon D. Fee and Douglas Stuart (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1993). Pages 216-226 of the second edition focus particularly on Proverbs.

### **Day 1**      **Fear Factor**

**Scripture:** Psalm 34; John 19:31-36

**Aims:** **Know:** that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

**Feel:** that the fear of the Lord is desirable.

**Do:** consider what might be obstacles to fearing the Lord.

### **Day 2**      **Listen Up**

**Scripture:** Proverbs 1:8-33

**Aims:** **Know:** that listening humbly to good advice and to rebukes brings wisdom.

**Feel:** willing to listen to those older and wiser.

**Do:** practice watching for wise responses in others.



**Day 3          Searching for Treasure**

**Scripture:** Proverbs 2

**Aims:** **Know:** that we must be actively involved in the search for wisdom.

**Feel:** that wisdom is a treasure.

**Do:** specify ways to look for wisdom.

**Day 4          Remember!**

**Scripture:** Proverbs 3:1-7

**Aims:** **Know:** that wisdom apart from God is no wisdom at all.

**Feel:** that trusting in the Lord should affect every part of their lives.

**Do:** pray for wisdom for one another about difficult situations.

**Day 5          A Big To-do**

**Scripture:** Proverbs 3:3-4; Luke 4:28-32; 6:6-11; 19:45-48; 20:19-26; 22:39-53; 23:13-25; 23:32-37; 23:38-43; 23:44-47; 1 Corinthians 1:22-24.

**Aims:** **Know:** that Jesus himself is our wisdom.

**Feel:** that having Jesus is what we need most.

**Do:** make a journal to help keep Jesus our main focus in life.

# In Christ

A Study in Colossians  
For Teens

**So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord,  
continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him,  
strengthened in the faith as you were taught,  
and overflowing with thankfulness.**

Colossians 2:6-7

How did you receive Jesus Christ as Lord? Wasn't it **by faith**? You realized that you could do nothing to save yourself. You could do nothing to impress God. Your sin was hanging around your neck, stinking up the place, and it had to be dealt with.

The **only solution**: trust that Jesus' shed blood would wipe out the stench of your sin and make you clean before God.

And that's how you live the Christian life, too. It's not up to *you* to live a holy and obedient life. You can't—not good enough for God's standards. So once again you have to put your hope and trust **in Jesus**.

Trusting in Jesus' death pleased God and washed you clean; trusting in Jesus' life (because he obeyed God perfectly—ALL. THE. TIME.) pleases God and gets you growing.

Growing *in Christ* is not about keeping a checklist or a bunch of rules. Growing *in Christ* means getting to know this **amazing** Person who loves you, prays for you, roots for you, and died FOR YOU.

## Day 1     **Rescue!**

**Scripture:** Colossians 1:15-23, 2:6-7

**Aims:** **Know:** that God reconciles us to himself through the shed blood of Jesus.

**Feel:** that God's plan of redemption is amazing and worth meditating on.

**Do:** have the opportunity to trust in Christ; practice meditating on today's scripture.

## Day 2     **Continue to Live in Him**

**Scripture:** Colossians 1:1 – 2:15

**Aims:** **Know:** that the gospel (Jesus' death and resurrection) is the foundation for both our salvation and our Christian living.

**Feel:** that we need Jesus every hour and every minute.

**Do:** continue to practice meditating.

### **Day 3      Rooted and Built Up in Him**

**Scripture:** Colossians 3:1-14

**Aims:** **Know:** that our faith, though based on and nurtured by invisible truths, should be visible to others.

**Feel:** that Christ is essential for every part of a Christian's life.

**Do:** practice meditating and discover what it motivates us to do.

### **Day 4              Strengthened in the Faith as you were Taught**

**Scripture:** Colossians 1:3-8, 9-12, 24-29; 2:1-5, 8, 16-23

**Aims:** **Know:** that our faith is strengthened by hearing good teaching from others.

**Feel:** that being involved in a church body (where good teaching can be heard) is important.

**Do:** pray for one another to continue to live and grow in Christ at home.

### **Day 5              And Overflowing with Thankfulness**

**Scripture:** Colossians 1:3,12; 2:7; 3:15,16,17; 4:2-18

**Aims:** **Know:** that Paul had many reasons to complain, but chose to be thankful instead.

**Feel:** that the invisible realities we have in Christ are far more important than any earthly discomfort we may experience.

**Do:** plan a thanksgiving service.

# Satisfied in God Alone

A Study in Habakkuk  
For Teens

When all is taken away—peace, safety, wealth, job, home, even church, what is left? Where can we find comfort when everything disappoints? Only in God himself. The God who judges and the God who saves. The God who wounds and the God who heals. The God who is in his holy temple and sees and rules all. It is this Sovereign Lord who heals all our wounds and carries all our sorrows through his beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

## **Day 1 Be Utterly Amazed**

**Scripture:** Habakkuk 1:1-12; Acts 13:26-31, 38-41

**Aims:** **Know:** that God’s judgment is holy and righteous.

**Feel:** that God’s judgment on Jesus was a display of amazing love.

**Do:** have the opportunity to trust in Christ and to thank him for his sacrifice.

## **Day 2 Ask, Seek, Knock**

**Scripture:** Habakkuk 1:12-2:1

**Aims:** **Know:** that God is not rattled by our questions.

**Feel:** that God will respond when we ask, seek, and knock.

**Do:** share questions and prayer requests and pray together as a cabin group.

## **Day 3 Be Silent Before Him**

**Scripture:** Habakkuk 2:2-20

**Aims:** **Know:** that God is in control though it may not look like it.

**Feel:** humble before this mighty God.

**Do:** practice being silent before God.

## **Day 4 Stand in Awe**

**Scripture:** Habakkuk 3:1-16

**Aims:** **Know:** that God’s awesome deeds of the past prove his power, love, and faithfulness.

**Feel:** awe at God’s wrath and mercy.

**Do:** remind one another of God’s great deeds and worship him together.

## **Day 5 Judge or Savior?**

**Scripture:** Habakkuk 3:17-19

**Aims:** **Know:** that God both wounds and heals, as was displayed at the cross.

**Feel:** relief that God is Savior, not only Judge.

**Do:** choose ways to express the joy of knowing Christ as Savior.

# Alive with Christ

A study in Ephesians  
For Teens

Being raised from death to life is not your typical daily occurrence. It's a miracle! Just as the Resurrection of Jesus was a miracle. And when that miracle takes place in our hearts and the door to paradise is opened to us, what do we find there? Every spiritual blessing in Christ!

This week as you work through the first few chapters of Ephesians with your campers and examine this great salvation, may you be filled with joy and amazement. May you know true satisfaction as you "learn Christ" (Ephesians 4:20).

## **Day 1 Every Spiritual Blessing in Christ**

**Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 11:23-29; Ephesians 1:1-14

**Aims:** **Know:** that the spiritual blessings God has given in Christ are far more valuable than any earthly blessings we may receive.

**Feel:** gratitude for these spiritual blessings.

**Do:** make a plan to remind one another of these blessings throughout the week.

## **Day 2 Remember the Big Picture**

**Scripture:** Ephesians 1:1-14 and various other verses in Ephesians

**Aims:** **Know:** that God has given us the big picture of his eternal plan for our benefit.

**Feel:** thrilled that we can be a part of something so much bigger than ourselves.

**Do:** make a diagram of God's plan to help us remember the big picture.

## **Day 3 Out of the Shadows**

**Scripture:** Ephesians 2:1-10

**Aims:** **Know:** that it is by God's grace that we are brought from death to life.

**Feel:** amazed and grateful for God's work on our behalf.

**Do:** have the opportunity to respond in faith to Christ Jesus.

## **Day 4 Peacemaker**

**Scripture:** Ephesians 2:11-22; Romans 9:4-5

**Aims:** **Know:** that Jesus came not only to reconcile us to God, but also to each other.

**Feel:** the desire to mend broken relationships with other Christians.

**Do:** choose ways to mend relationships with other Christians.

## **Day 5 We Need Each Other**

**Scripture:** Ephesians 4:7-16; Psalm 68:18

**Aims:** **Know:** that Jesus gives all believers gifts in order to serve one another and build up the body of Christ.

**Feel:** that each member's work and contribution is needed for the body of Christ to be healthy.

**Do:** choose a time to especially focus on and display unity in the cabin.