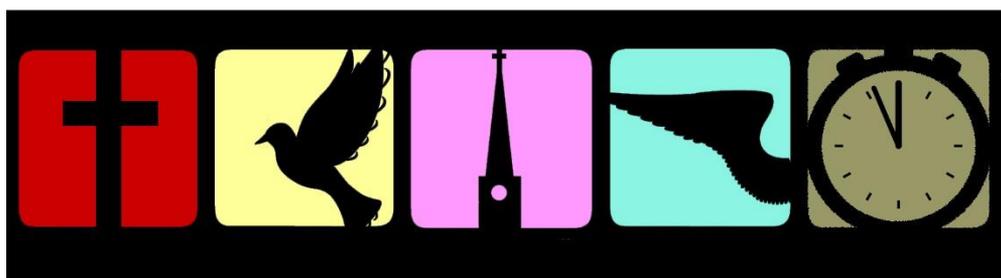




DOCTRINES OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH



**PROJECT 52 WEEKLY
MEMORY VERSE SERIES**

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INTRODUCTION

What is the Christian faith? What do Christians believe? Where do Christian beliefs come from? Why is it important to know what you believe?

The answers to some of those questions seem rather obvious. Surely, we all know that it's important to know WHAT we believe! Yet many professing Christians have only a glimmer of an idea of what it means to be a Christian, and they certainly don't know where those basic Christian beliefs even come from.

This Project 52 challenge aims to address the basic Christian beliefs as outlined in the Bible, and to reinforce that understanding through Bible verse memorization. Simply put, knowing what you believe, and knowing where those beliefs originate strengthens our faith in, and relationship with the Lord.



THE BEAUTY OF PROJECT 52

Think about it – just like acquiring wealth, gathering money little by little to make it grow (Proverbs 13:11), memorizing only one little section of scripture per week, will cause us to build up a full memory bank account of 52 verses by the end of the year!

And just like sticking to a health and fitness regimen, accountability goes a long way. We suggest that as you go through the verses, you recite them to another. Then, have that person initial and date the section. Better yet, why don't you do this together!

WHY MEMORIZE?

It's long been the practice of Christians to not only read the Bible daily, but to memorize the text. Why did they do that? There are several reasons:

- We are called to memorize God's Word (*Joshua 1:8, Col. 3:16*)
- It helps us better understand God and His will (*Psalms 40:8*)
- It helps us fend off temptation, and to instead live in obedience to God's perfect will (*Psalms 119:11*)
- It renews our mind and transforms our life (*Romans 12:2*)
- It helps us share our faith with others (*John 17:17, Romans 10:17*)

For all these great reasons, how can you not want to start memorizing?

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:2 (ESV)



HOW TO MEMORIZE

Admittedly, some of us are better at memorizing things than others. This is okay, but it is still important that we try. Here are a few tips offered by Andy Rau, senior manager of content for Bible Gateway.¹

1. Choose a verse to memorize that speaks to something in your life.
2. Start small. Choose a short verse.
3. Write it down. Many times.
4. Say it out loud. Many times.
5. Incorporate the verse into your prayers.
6. Put it everywhere. Tape the verse to your bathroom mirror or computer monitor. Tuck it into your purse, lunch sack, car glove compartment...
7. Use music to help. Try setting the Bible verse to a simple tune you already know.
8. Make it a game. Write the verse out on flashcards, leaving key words blank, and quiz yourself.

A NOTE ABOUT BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

For the most part, we've used translations that are essentially literal, and easily understood in today's modern English. Apart from the NIV, no dynamic equivalent or paraphrased translations have been cited. All are credible and the meanings of the verses do not change from translation to translation, and many times, there are no differences between the translations. If you feel more comfortable memorizing from one specific translation, then please! Use that translation! The important thing is that you enjoy planting God's word deep into your heart.

Translation Abbreviations:

NASB – New American Standard

ESV – English Standard Version

NKJV – New King James Version

NIV – New International Version



CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE OVERVIEW

There are basically 10 doctrinal categories of the Christian faith, although there is so much more theology to learn. These categories are:

1. Bibliology – the study of the Bible
2. Theology Proper – the study of God
3. Christology – the study of Jesus
4. Anthropology – the study of man
5. Hamartiology – the study of sin
6. Soteriology – the study of salvation
7. Pneumatology – the study of the Holy Spirit
8. Ecclesiology – the study of the church
9. Angelology – the study of angels
10. Eschatology – the study of end times

Each of these categories could be a year's worth of study in and of themselves, and frankly, we have only 52 weeks to learn basic Christian doctrine. We will fly through many of these, like angelology, and with others, such as theology proper, we'll take our time. There are a great number of theology books you can read to gain more understanding, but our hope is that you'll first pick up your Bible and search these out for yourself!

Resources to consider:

Know What You Believe by Paul E. Little

Basic Christianity by John Stott

Christian Beliefs by Wayne Grudem

Biblical Doctrine: A Systematic Summary of Bible Truth by William Barrick,

Nathan Busenitz, James Mook

Systematic Theology by Wayne Grudem

IT'S TIME TO BEGIN

Please understand that the practice of memorizing takes time and commitment. Once you get into the habit, memorizing scripture does get easier because your brain has grown accustomed to it. Don't be discouraged. Stay the course!





Week 1 (January 5-11, 2020)

The Bible is God's word, and our ultimate authority.

John 17:17 (ESV)

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

Week 2 (January 12-18, 2020)

The Bible is clear in all things necessary to become a Christian, to live as a Christian, and to grow as a Christian.

Psalm 19:7 (NASB)

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul.

The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

Week 3 (January 19-25, 2020)

The Bible is sufficient

2 Timothy 3:16 (NASB)

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

Week 4 (January 26-February 1, 2020)

The Bible is necessary

Romans 10:17 (NASB)

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

Week 5 (February 2-8, 2020)

The Bible is inspired – not produced by man's will

2 Peter 1:20b-21 (ESV)

no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation.

²¹ For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

YOU'RE OFF TO A STRONG START!

Keep up the good work!





THEOLOGY PROPER

THE STUDY OF GOD

Week 6 (February 9-15, 2020)

God exists

Romans 1:20 (NASB)

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.

Week 7 (February 16-22, 2020)

God is eternal

Psalms 90:2 (NASB)

Before the mountains were born

Or You gave birth to the earth and the world,

Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

Week 8 (February 23-29, 2020)

God is omnipresent – present in every point of space with His whole beingⁱⁱ

Psalms 139:7-10 (NIV)

⁷ Where can I go from your Spirit?

Where can I flee from your presence?

⁸ If I go up to the heavens, you are there;

If I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

⁹ If I rise on the wings of the dawn,

If I settle on the far side of the sea,

¹⁰ even there your hand will guide me,

Your right hand will hold me fast.

Week 9 (March 1-7, 2020)

God is omniscient (He knows everything)

Hebrews 4:13 (ESV)

¹³ And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.





THEOLOGY PROPER

THE STUDY OF GOD

CONTINUED

Week 10 (March 8-14, 2020)

God is omnipotent (He is all-powerful)

Jeremiah 32:17 (NASB)

Ah Lord God! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You

Week 11 (March 15-21, 2020)

God is unchangeable (In His being, attributes, purposes and promisesⁱⁱⁱ)

Malachi 3:6a (NASB)

"For I, the Lord, do not change..."

Week 12 (March 22-28, 2020)

God is spirit (His being is not made of any matter)

John 4:24 (NASB)

God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

Week 13 (March 29-April 4, 2020)

God is truthful

Numbers 23:19 (NASB)

God is not a man, that He should lie,
Nor a son of man, that He should repent;
Has He said, and will He not do it?
Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?

"In the Church of Jesus Christ there can and should be no non-theologians."

- Karl Barth





THEOLOGY PROPER

THE STUDY OF GOD

CONTINUED

Week 14 (April 5-11, 2020)

God is righteous and just

Deuteronomy 32:4 (NASB)

The Rock! His work is perfect,

For all His ways are just;

A God of faithfulness and without injustice,

Righteous and upright is He.

Week 15 (April 12-18, 2020)

God is good (and is the final standard of good)

Luke 18:19 (NASB)

And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone."

Week 16 (April 19-25, 2020)

God is knowable (while we will never fully know God, we can personally know Him.)

John 17:3 (NASB)

This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

Week 17 (April 26-May 2, 2020)

God is love

¹ John 4:7-8 (NKJV)

⁷ Beloved let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

⁸ He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

DON'T FORGET!

Review verses often to cement them into your mind!





Week 18 (May 3-9, 2020)

Jesus is God

John 1:1 (NASB)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God

Week 19 (May 10-16, 2020)

Jesus is fully human

John 1:14 (NASB)

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Week 20 (May 17-23, 2020)

Jesus our only mediator/high priest

Hebrews 4:14-16 (NASB)

¹⁴Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Week 21 (May 24-30, 2020)

Jesus is our substitute

1 Peter 2:24 (ESV)

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

Good conduct arises out of good doctrine.

- John Stott





CHRISTOLOGY

THE STUDY OF JESUS CHRIST

CONTINUED

Week 22 (May 31-June 1, 2020)

Jesus died, was buried, and rose again

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (NASB)

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures



ANTHROPOLOGY

THE STUDY OF MAN

Week 23 (June 7-13, 2020)

Man was created in God's image

Genesis 1:27 (NASB)

God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Week 24 (June 14-20, 2020)

Man was created for God's glory

Isaiah 43:7 (NKJV)

Everyone who is called by My name,
Whom I have created for My glory;
I have formed him, yes, I have made him.

Week 25 (June 21-27, 2020)

Through Adam all humans have inherited sin

Romans 5:19 (NASB)

For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.





Week 26 (June 28-July 4, 2020)

Man is not, nor can be perfect: He has already sinned

Romans 3:23 (NASB)

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Week 27 (July 5-11, 2020)

God is wrathful toward sin

Romans 1:18 (NASB)

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

Week 28 (July 12-18, 2020)

God's judgment for sin is death

Romans 6:23 (NASB)

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Week 29 (July 19-25, 2020)

Man can do nothing to obtain perfection

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NASB)

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works so that no one may boast.

"The foundation of true holiness and true Christian worship is the doctrine of the gospel, what we are to believe. So when Christian doctrine is neglected, forsaken, or corrupted, true holiness and worship will also be neglected, forsaken, and corrupted."

- John Owen



Week 30 (July 26-August 1, 2020)

God showed his love by bearing the punishment for our sins

Romans 5:8 (NASB)

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Week 31 (August 2-8, 2020)

Salvation is from God, not by the works of man and this only through Jesus

Titus 3:5 (NASB)

He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit

Week 32 (August 9-15, 2020)

Jesus is the only means by which God saves mankind

Acts 4:12 (NIV)

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.

Week 33 (August 16-22, 2020)

Jesus is the only means by which God saves mankind

John 14:6 (NASB)

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through me."

Week 34 (August 23-29, 2020)

Jesus took our sin and gave believers his righteousness – the great exchange

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.



CONTINUED

Week 35 (August 30-September 5, 2020)

God gives us a new life when we trust in Christ's finished work

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NASB)

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

Week 36 (September 6-12, 2020)

Believers in Jesus are secure in Christ

Romans 8:38-39 (NASB)

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Week 37 (September 13-19, 2020)

Good words are a result of a new life.

Ephesians 2:10 (NASB)

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in the them.

“WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?”

We challenge you to read Acts 16:25-31, because this the exact question posed by a tough and gnarly Roman jailer.

But maybe you're the religious type – a stand-up citizen. Perhaps a leader in your neighborhood. Then read John 3:1-21. You'll soon discovered that whether you are a crusty blatant sinner, or one of the “good guys,” the answer is the same.

Believe. Trust in the Lord Jesus.

And do it today.





Week 38 (September 20-26, 2020)

The Holy Spirit is fully God

2 Corinthians 3:17 (NASB)

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

Week 39 (September 27-October 3, 2020)

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity

2 Corinthians 13:14 (NASB)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

Week 40 (October 4-10, 2020)

The Holy Spirit is a personal Being – not an impersonal force

Ephesians 4:30 (NASB)

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Week 41 (October 11-17, 2020)

The Holy Spirit dwells in the believer

Romans 8:9 (NASB)

However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

"I used to tell young preachers, in order to preach you've got to have the power of God on your life. Now I tell them, in order to tie your shoes you've got to have the power of God on your life."

— Paul Washer





CONTINUED

Week 42 (October 16-24, 2020)

The Holy Spirit is the guarantee of the believer's salvation

2 Corinthians 5:5 (ESV)

Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee

Week 43 (October 25-31, 2020)

The Holy Spirit guides believers to all truth

Galatians 5:16 (NASB)

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

Week 44 (November 1-7, 2020)

The Holy Spirit enables believers to live a life pleasing to God.

Galatians 5:22-23 (NASB)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

CHALLENGE!

Consider memorizing the "Romans Road," which is a simple collection of verses from the book of Romans that concisely explains God's plan for salvation. Although there are several different versions, this is the simplest.^{iv}

1. We are all sinners by choice: Romans 3:23 (Week 26)
2. We receive eternal life as a free gift: Romans 6:23 (Week 28)
3. God demonstrated his love for us, His enemies: Romans 5:8 (Week 30)
4. We must trust and surrender to Jesus: Romans 10:9-10
5. We have assurance of salvation through Jesus: Romans 10:13





Week 45 (November 8-14, 2020)

The local church is a gathering of believers to encourage and strengthen one another.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (ESV)

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Week 46 (November 15-21, 2020)

The local church serves God and serves others.

Colossians 3:16 (NASB)

Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Week 47 (November 22-28, 2020)

The church ministers to the world with the gospel.

Matthew 28:19-20 (ESV)

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

THREE FUNDAMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS TO LOOK FOR IN CHOOSING A LOCAL CHURCH

1. Doctrine: Proclaiming truth, being Biblically centered, and having a high view of God.
2. The Christian Life: Encouraging people to build and strengthen their faith, and to live a life that is pleasing to the Lord and consistent with scripture.
3. Evangelism: Demonstrating a concern for bringing lost souls to Christ.

For more information, download our guide “Finding a Local Church” from keyradio.org



Week 48 (November 29-December 5, 2020)

Angels are created beings

Colossians 1:16 (ESV)

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.

Week 49 (December 6-12, 2020)

Jesus will return

Revelation 1:7 (ESV)

7 Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

Week 50 (December 13-19, 2020)

No one knows when Jesus will return

Matthew 24:36 (ESV)

"But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only."

Week 51 (December 20-26, 2020)

Jesus will return to judge the earth

Acts 17:30-31 (ESV)

The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."





ESCHATOLOGY

THE STUDY OF END TIMES

CONTINUED

Week 52 (December 27, 2020 – January 2, 2021)

Jesus will return to judge the earth

Matthew 25:31-32 (ESV)

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

I COMPLETED THE PROJECT 52 MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE!

Your Name

Date

WELL DONE!

- You’ve completed the Project 52 memory verse challenge.
- You’ve strengthened your understanding of Biblical doctrine.
- You’ve memorized well over 52 verses and are now even more prepared to share your faith with others.
- What’s more, you’ve glorified the Lord by keeping His word in your heart.

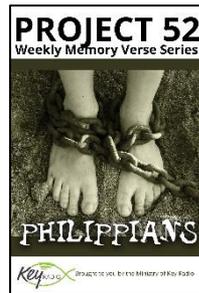
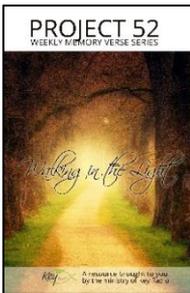
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We are always encouraged to hear the stories of our listening family and international friends and partners. Send us a message to mail@keyradio.org or text us 855-539-4583 (855-KEY-4583)



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ⁱ <https://www.biblegateway.com/blog/2013/03/ten-tips-for-memorizing-bible-verses/> accessed 4/18/2017

ⁱⁱ Grudem, Wayne. Christian Beliefs: 20 Basics Every Christian Should Know. Inter-Varsity Press, 2007.

ⁱⁱⁱ Ibid.

^{iv} "Teen Missions International." Teen Missions International,

<https://www.teenmissions.org/https://www.teenmissions.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Romans-Road-Bookmark.pdf>.

