Journey Through the Bible: A Year of Our Lord
Session 1: Introduction to the Bible
Remember Acts 17:11

Benjamin Franklin:
Misquote: "Jack of all trades, master of none."
Actual: "Jack of all trades, master of one."
A well-rounded citizen is one who knows:
Something about everything…
And everything about something.

2 Tim. 3:14-17 The Bible is Inspired by God
Infallible (Incapable of Deceit)
Inerrant (Free of Mistruths)
Sufficient (For Salvation, Equipping, Devotion)

The Profession of a Christian is Three-Fold:
A Lived Example of God's Love.
A Minister of God's Mercy.
An Apologist of God's Word. (Foundational)

"If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering and to prosper; but if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury all our glory in profound obscurity." - Daniel Webster

Goals of This Study:
- Increase Personal Knowledge of the Bible
- Increase Awareness of the Practical Instruction Found in Bible
- Provide a Foundation for Deeper Personal Study
- Develop a Navigational Awareness
- Develop a Closer Relationship with God

The Ultimate Adventure Story:
- The Greatest Drama of Good vs. Evil
- The Nature of Evil
- The Tenacity of Good
- The Deepest Love
- The Deadliest War
- The Most Incomprehensible Mysteries
- The Eternal Biography of Our Savior

Principle Assumptions:

- The Bible is an Intricate, Designed, Integrated Message which Originated from Outside Time
- Only Understood in the Presence of the Holy Spirit
- The Originals Are God Breathed & Without Error
- The Word of God is Inexhaustible
- Every Detail is Connected

Tools of the Trade:

- Bible (Reliable Translation, Readable)
- Bible Maps
- Concordance (Text Organized by Theme/Topic)
- Journal
- Bible Reading Plan (Book-by-Book/Chronological)
- Accountability Partners

Bible Translation:

- Contrary Wording (Cultural or Vocabulary Differences)
- Formal Equivalence (Literal)
    - Word-for-World Translation
- Functional Equivalence (Dynamic)
    - Thought-by-Thought
- Paraphrase (Free)
    - Commentaries (Cultural Literacy)

Formal Equivalence (Literal):

(New) King James Version
New American Standard Bible
English Standard Bible
New Revised Standard Version

Moderate/Combination:

New International Version
Christian Standard Bible
Holman Christian Standard Bible

Functional Equivalence (Dynamic):

New American Bible
Good News Bible
Revised English Bible
The (New) Jerusalem Bible
New Living Translation

Principle Information:

- 66 Books
- Penned by 40 Individuals
- > 2,000 Years
- First Penned in 3 Languages
- Most Well-Preserved Ancient Text Available
- Organized into Groups for Study

The Nature of Eternity:

- Not Restricted by Time
- Able to Witness/Intervene at Any Point

Old Testament:

Torah (Pentateuch)

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy

Historical Books

Joshua
Judges
Ruth
1st&2nd Samuel
1st&2nd Kings
1st&2nd Chronicles
Ezra-Nehemiah
Esther

Wisdom Literature (Poetic)

Job
Psalms
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Solomon

Major Prophets

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel

Minor Prophets

Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

New Testament:

The Gospels

Matthew*
Mark*
Luke*
John
*Synoptics

History

Acts of the Apostles

Pauline Epistles (Letters)

Romans
1st & 2nd Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1st & 2nd Thessalonians
1st & 2nd Timothy*
Titus*
Philemon
*Pastoral Epistles

Other Epistles

Hebrews*
James
1st & 2nd Peter
1st, 2nd, & 3rd John
Jude
*Author Unknown

Apocalypse (Vision)

Revelation

Organization of the Bible:

The Old Testament

- The Story of a Family & a Nation
- Incomplete
  - Unexplained Ceremonies (Feasts)
  - Unachieved Purposes (Covenants)
  - Unanswered Longings (Poetry)
  - Unfulfilled Prophecies

The New Testament (Jn. 5:39)

- The Story of a Couple (Christ & the Church)

"In the volume of the book it is written of Me…"
(Heb. 10:7 NKJV)

  - The Messiah is Revealed
  - The Past is Explained
  - The Church is Commissioned and Instructed
  - The Future is Forecast

"I most firmly believe that their authors were completely free from error. If in these writings, I am confused… I do not hesitate to suppose either that the manuscript is faulty or the translator has not caught the meaning of what was said or I myself have failed to understand it rightly." – St. Augustine

For Next Session:

- Have All Your Tools Handy
  Bible, Concordance, Maps, Journal
- Contact with 3-5 Friends
- Select a Bible-in-a-Year Reading Plan
- Schedule a 30 Min. Daily Devotional Time