

# BUILD IV

## Great Passages of the Bible

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**BIBLICAL  
UNDERSTANDING  
INTERCESSORY PRAYER  
LEADERSHIP  
DEVELOPMENT**

*"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

# BUILD IV

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# INTRODUCTION

Perhaps the first question that came to your mind when you saw this study title was, "Aren't all passages of the Bible great?" Of course, they are. Since our church wholeheartedly believes that "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching ..." (2 Timothy 3:16), we believe that every passage from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21 is of extraordinary value.

But we also understand that not all verses or passages give equal amounts of insight into God's nature, humanity's sin, or God's plan of redemption through Jesus Christ. Certain passages yield especially large amounts of insight into key biblical themes. Some of these passages will be our focus in this BUILD study. *Great Passages of the Bible* just seemed to sound better than *Texts that Yield Particular Insight into Key Biblical Themes*!

The passages in this study will give us a broad overview of God's great works. We will touch on the themes of creation, law, God's Word, Jesus' teachings, and Paul's epistles on life as a Christian. Each unit will include a key verse or verses for you to memorize that week. Please, please do the memory work and review it in your BUILD group meetings! Your BUILD experience will be much richer if you do this.

In addition to regular prayer with and for your BUILD team members, please recruit one person outside of BUILD to pray regularly for your spiritual growth during this study. I recommend that person be your spouse if she is a Christian.

As you study and pray together and memorize God's Word, may the Holy Spirit help you have "strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:18-19).

In Christ,



David Beaty

Pastor, River Oaks Community Church

## MY COMMITMENT AS A PARTICIPANT IN THE BUILD MINISTRY

With God's help, I commit to:

- Meet weekly with my BUILD team.
- Read the Bible for a minimum of 10 minutes each day during BUILD. I will memorize the assigned verses and review them during the semester.
- Spend a minimum of 5 minutes each day in prayer during the BUILD semester. I agree to pray daily for the spiritual development of the other members of my BUILD team.
- Seek to live in such a way as to honor Jesus Christ and represent Him well before others.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# CREATION

## GENESIS CHAPTER 1

Read Genesis 1 three times during the week prior to your BUILD team meeting.

1. What is the significance of Genesis 1:1, and how should its truth shape the way we understand the purpose of our lives?
2. What does it mean to be created in God's image? (verses 26-27)
3. Where in this chapter do you see evidence that God is triune (the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit)?
4. What was God's purpose in giving human beings dominion over the earth? (verses 26, 28)

How should we exercise that dominion today?

5. Memorize Genesis 1:1 and 1:27.

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

## EXODUS 20:1-17

Read Exodus 20:1-17 three times during the week prior to your BUILD team meeting.

1. Why did God give the first two commandments?
2. What do you think it means to take God's name in vain?
3. What was the purpose of the "Sabbath day" commandment, and how should we honor it today? (See also Mark 2:23-28.)
4. What does it mean to "covet"?

How can we avoid the sin of coveting?

## 5. Memorize the Ten Commandments:

- You shall have no other gods before me.
- You shall not make idols.
- You shall not take the Lord's name in vain.
- Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
- Honor your father and your mother.
- You shall not murder.
- You shall not commit adultery.
- You shall not steal.
- You shall not bear false witness.
- You shall not covet.



# "THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD"

## PSALM 23

Read Psalm 23 slowly each day for a week prior to your BUILD team meeting.

1. Why has God given us the image of himself as a shepherd?

What does this tell you about God?

What does this tell you about us?

2. Note verse 3. How can we expect God to lead us?

3. How can we experience God's comfort during times of deep distress or anxiety?



# GOD'S WORD

## PSALM 119

With 176 verses, Psalm 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible. The headings over each group of eight verses are successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet. Read all of Psalm 119 before your BUILD team meeting. Our study will focus on verses 1-32.

1. List the synonyms for God's Word you can find in verses 1-32.
2. Read verses 1-32 again slowly, as a prayer to the Lord. Note five verses you might find helpful to pray regularly.
3. Why is it helpful to pray the words of Scripture?
4. What does it mean to meditate upon God's Word? (verses 15, 23)
5. How can God's Word become a "delight" to us? (verses 14, 16, and 24)

6. Memorize Psalm 119:9 and 11.

# WISDOM FROM GOD

## PROVERBS 3

The Book of Proverbs is a biblical "go-to" book for wisdom. Proverbs consists largely of short statements and comparisons to provide wise guidance for life. Read Proverbs 3 at least three times slowly during the week prior to your BUILD group.

1. List five things chapter 3 teaches us to do.
2. List five things it teaches us not to do.
3. List five qualities of a person who lives by the teaching of Proverbs 3.
4. How would you summarize the teaching of Proverbs 3 in one sentence?  
(Note: Don't use the headings in your Bible!)
5. How would your life be different if you consistently applied the teaching of Proverbs 3?

6. Memorize Proverbs 3:5-6.

# THE BEATITUDES

## MATTHEW CHAPTER 5

Matthew chapter 5 is the first of three chapters in Jesus' famous "Sermon on the Mount." Read all three chapters (5-7) prior to your BUILD study. Our study will focus on chapter 5.

1. Imagine being one of Jesus' hearers seated on the mountainside that day. What are two or three words or phrases that would describe His teaching that day?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How does Jesus explain and apply some of the Ten Commandments in this chapter?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What character qualities does Jesus indicate are called for in His followers?

To what degree do you see these qualities in Christians today?

What about in your own life?

4. How can you be "salt" and "light" (vv. 13-16) to those around you?

5. Memorize Matthew 5:16.



# THE GOOD SHEPHERD

## JOHN CHAPTER 10

Read John chapter 10 three times before completing the questions below in preparation for your BUILD group.

1. What are the two images Jesus uses of himself in this chapter?

What is the significance for us of each of these images of Christ?

2. What insights does Jesus provide into His coming crucifixion and the purpose for it?
3. What truths are given in this chapter about those who are Jesus' sheep?
4. What did Jesus say that incited the Jews to accuse Him of blasphemy?

5. Memorize John 10:27-28.

# THE RENEWED MIND

## ROMANS CHAPTER 12

Slowly read through Romans chapter 12 three times before answering the questions below.

1. What three appeals are given to followers of Jesus in verses 1 and 2?

What life-change would result from doing these things?

2. Based on verses 3-8, how should we as individuals understand our roles in the body of Christ?
3. Verses 9-21 provide a remarkable list of instructions to guide a Christian's life. What similarities here do you see with the teaching of Jesus found in Matthew chapter 5?
4. Read verses 9-21 again. What are two or three character qualities necessary in a Christian who fulfills the commands in this list?

5. Memorize Romans 12:1-2.

# GOD'S GREAT PLAN

## EPHESIANS CHAPTER 1

Slowly read through Ephesians 1 three times before answering the questions below.

1. Consider verses 3 and 4. How would you explain these verses to a child?

2. What does this chapter teach us about what Jesus has done for us?

What was the Father's motivation in sending Jesus to do this?

3. What does it mean to be "sealed" with the Holy Spirit, and in what way is He the "guarantee of our inheritance"?

4. What is the focus of the prayer of the apostle Paul found in verses 16-19?

5. Memorize Ephesians 1:3.

# FAITH

## HEBREWS CHAPTER 11

Slowly read Hebrews 11 three times before answering the questions below.

1. Based on verse 1, give a simple definition of faith in your own words.
2. How does Abraham's "offering up" of his son, Isaac, pre-figure the gospel?  
(See verses 17-19.)
3. Suppose a friend asked you whether people who lived before Christ were saved, and if so, how that occurred. How would you reply?
4. Can having enough faith ensure a life without adversity? Why or why not?
5. See verses 39 and 40. What was the "something better" promised to believers before and after the coming of Christ?

6. Memorize Hebrews 11:1.

During your final BUILD group meeting, review all memory work for the study.