
WELCOME**Our Mission is ONE REAL PASSION**

1. Each **ONE** Matters
2. Be **REAL**
3. Follow the **PASSION** of Jesus

Our Goal is to

- Connect you to Jesus
- Connect you to His community for discipleship
- Connect you to your mission and purpose in life

New to Foothills? Our mission as a church is to do everything we can to help you grow your faith. If you would like to get to know us a little better or begin or continue your journey of faith, speak to an elder or staff member or **contact Foothills at 208-853-0011**, or for more information, stop by the **Connection booth in the Atrium**.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Fill out a **Connect card** using the QR code on the screen or the actual card on the seat back in front of you. Place your prayer request in the ORANGE offering box in the back of the Sanctuary. You can also send a prayer request using this form: [Prayer Request - Foothills Church](#). The staff and volunteers pray over these weekly.

Baptism - One important step in your faith journey is baptism. To learn more about baptism, speak to an elder or staff member or **contact Foothills at 208-853-0011** and we will send you the teaching on Believers' Baptism.

ONGOING/UPCOMING

- **MomCo** - [Foothills Moms Community- MomCo - Foothills Church](#)
- **Small Groups** - [Foothills Church \(churchcenter.com\)](#)
- **MOMENTUM**: Find out more here [Momentum | Foothills Christian Church](#)
- **NEW! CHURCH CENTER App** – Watch sermons live, follow along with the message and take notes, join a group, register for upcoming events, chat with your small group. The app is available in the App Store or Google Play -- search for *Foothills Christian Church*
- **Host the Adsit Family** – [Adsit Home Stays - Foothills Church](#)
- **Serving Opportunities**: Fill out a **CONNECT** card or visit the **CONNECTION BOOTH** in the Atrium
 - **FH Kids** – Love kids? Prefer not to teach? Perfect. We have super easy, low-prep roles like Crew Guides and helpers that make a huge difference.
 - **Production** – If you can push a button, we can teach you the rest! Whether you are tech-savvy or brand new, this behind-the-scenes team has a spot for you.
 - **Worship** – If you sing or play, come audition! Our leaders will coach, support, and help you grow.
 - **Sunday Breakfast Team** - Love to cook? We are looking for someone to provide breakfast once a month for the Sunday Morning volunteers -- a fun and creative way to serve your church community.
- **Parents' Night Out** – February 13, 6-8 pm. **DROP OFF YOUR KIDDOS** for Movie & Pizza Night – ages 3 months – 11 years; then go out and have some fun! Includes crafts & bounce house. [RSVP required](#).
- **Parent's Night Out Volunteers Needed**: For more info or to sign up: [Parent's Night Out Volunteer Form - Foothills Church](#)
- **Missions Bake Sale** – Sunday, February 8 after service. Stock up on Super Bowl-ready snacks or Valentine's treats. Proceeds go to support **Casa de Fe (mission partners in Ecuador)**

The Message: It's Just A Book . . . Unless It's Not

Pastor Trent Renner

SERIES IN REVIEW

Message #1

- How did we get the Bible
- God to Man—Man to Paper—Paper to Heart
- Inspiration—Revelation—Illumination
- 7 rules of interpreting Scripture

Message #2

- Ask, "Is this God's design or man's distortion?"
- Practice Exegesis vs Isegesis
- Begin and Break and End in His Word
- God wants you back...**"Begin Again"**

Message #3

- Driving question: Why is there an Old & New Testament?
- Movements: Abraham, Moses, Sinai Covenant, Kings, Prophets, Silence, Jesus
- Old Testament: SORROW looks back, WORRY looks around, FAITH looks ahead
- New Testament: GRATITUDE looks back, PREPARATION looks around, and FAITH looks ahead

Message #4

- Provided a great visual of the Bible
- Movements of God's Plan
 - Creation → Sin/Fall → Israel → Jesus → Church → Restoration
- Two kinds of people addressed in the New Testament
 - Not in Christ -- use the book of Acts
 - Already in Christ -- use the epistles

TODAY'S MESSAGE (#5) – It Only Works If You Work It

Pastor Steve Botsford

Pastor Trent mentioned last week that the Bible is not nearly as deep as the educational system and religious institutions make it out to be. This is true -- the Bible has a simple message that anyone can understand. Anyone can pick it up and begin to understand who God is and His love for us.

But the way we look at scripture and even approach our time in Scripture makes a great difference in the way it will change us.

Window Illustration

Imagine that the Bible is like this window. And this window allows you to see what is happening on the other side -- just like the Bible helps us to see who God is and His plan from the beginning of time.

Some of us approach the Bible in this way... just glancing as you pass by.

Some get 8 feet away. Maybe you're a little better and you actually sit down with your Bible from time to time, but when it comes to really affecting you... there just isn't much change seen.

Others get closer and are 4 feet away. As you move closer and your frequency becomes more and more regular, things begin to change in you and in the way you see the world around you.

Eventually your face is on the window

Acts 17:10-12 (NIV)

As soon as it was night, the believers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue. 11Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. 12As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.

- **They didn't just take Paul at his word; they went to find out if what he was saying was true**

James 1:21-24 (NIV)

Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. 22Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

BIG IDEA | When it comes to Scripture, it only works if you work it.

If you are just expecting new things to pop out at you... prepare to be disappointed for the most part. But if you are asking questions and seeking answers... you will begin to see God's story and plan in a whole new way. Not only will you see the story in Scripture in a new way, but you will also see it start to change your own story.

The Power of 4

- Bible engagement 4+ times a week changes the way people live

3 different types of people and how they each approach reading the Bible

- **Closed**
 - They say, "It's just a book" . . . "It's too hard for someone like me to understand it"
 - You may recognize it as God's Word and believe it to be true
- **Open**
 - They see the Word of God as a useful thing with good advice
Psalm 119:105 (NIV): "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."
- **Engaged**
 - They want the Word of God to be in them and flowing through them
Psalm 119:9-11 (NIV): "How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word. 10 I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. 11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."

The more engaged you are in scripture the more you can get out of it each time you read it because . . .

- **Hebrews 4:12-13:** *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. 13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.*
- **2 Timothy 3:16-17:** *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

Are you closed, open or engaged when it comes to reading scripture?

CALL TO ACTION**For people who are CLOSED**

- Read the gospel of John over the next 21 days (1 chapter/day) and ask God to reveal if it is true

For people who are OPEN

- Start listening to or reading commentary
- Memorize Scripture
- **Discovery Bible Study Method**
 - What does this story tell me about God (Jesus/Holy Spirit)?
 - What does this story tell me about people?
 - If this is true, how should I change my life (what is the command to obey/example to follow)?
 - Who will I share this with?

For those who are ENGAGED

- Keep curious
- Start sharing what you are reading with nonbelievers/new believers
- Memorize Scripture
 - Jesus in the wilderness
 - It's our sword

No matter where you are... do this in community

Read it for life change – there is power in the Word of God and His plan for your life is found in His Word but it only works if you work it!

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Life Group Questions Week of 02/1/2026

BIG IDEA: It Only Works If You Work It.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were the 3 levels of approaching Scripture shared on Sunday? Where do you typically land amongst the 3 in your Bible time?
2. What are some of the things you have seen in Scripture that seemed impossible to know at one time? (Things you didn't see on the "bunny hill")
3. Read Hebrews 4:12-13. What does it mean that "the Word of God is alive and active?" Why does it matter that His Word is alive?

Hebrews 4:12-13: *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. 13Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.*

A living Word is not just one that is timeless and always applicable -- it is God's Word that literally gives life! It has the Good News of Jesus that gives new and eternal life to those who believe. The Scriptures also have the power to bring new life to all areas of your life (relationships, marriage, your hurts and bad habits, how you perceive things and much more).

4. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. How can we use Scripture in each of these ways?

2 Timothy 3:16-17: *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

5. What kind of things do we need to look out for when using Scripture for correcting and rebuking? Have you had to do this before? What is the process for this? (Matthew 18)
6. How can you come expectantly to Scripture?