



Application Guide for Doctrines

Timothy F. Neu, Ph.D.—Director
Tom Warren, D.Min—content writer
John Hutchins, M.A.—content writer
Tabitha Price, B.A.—content writer and editor

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ACCELERATING
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TRANSLATION

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Introduction

2 Timothy 3:15-17 ULB

15 You know that from childhood you have known the sacred writings. These are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture has been inspired by God. It is profitable for doctrine, for conviction, for correction, and for training in righteousness. 17 This is so that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

Scripture tells us what Scripture is good for and what it produces:

1. Knowing the Scriptures will help you to be wise and to understand the way of salvation.
2. Scripture teaches us how to live our lives.
3. Scripture gives us the measure of right and wrong.
4. The Christian who studies Scripture will be trained in godliness, will be shown how to live, will be taught how to have a relationship with God, and how to live with love toward others.
5. The Christian who studies the Word of God has everything needed to live for the glory of God.

The purpose of this guide is:

1. To provide a resource within the Christian community to gauge the effectiveness of Scripture in their lives.
2. To teach believers who can read the Scripture in their own language, new ways to study the Bible and apply it so they can experience the full measure of God's design for their life in him.
3. To provide the Christian community with a transferable, expandable, training guide to lead Christians to a deeper understanding and knowledge of the Bible.
4. To explain difficult words and ideas that are found in the Bible.
5. To help Christians discover ways of expressing love for God in worship that is built on the teaching of the Word of God.

The results of using this guide are:

1. The believing community will grow in their understanding of the Bible, and they will learn how to understand its message and to follow the instructions for Christian living and the worship of God.
2. Those in the churches will learn to serve and love other people as Christ has loved them.
3. Christians will experience growth, the disciplines of the Christian life (prayer, generosity, purity, and the like) as they live out their faith and as they grow in their trust in God.

The primary audience for this guide is:

1. Christians who want to understand the message of the Bible and who want to follow the teaching of the Bible, so that God is honored and that Christians grow in spiritual maturity.
2. Spiritual leaders in communities who have learned to teach the message of the Bible, and so by their teaching they would encourage spiritual growth in the Church and that would lead to spiritual maturity in those who worship and serve together in the local Church.

The expected outcome of this guide is:

1. Christians and those who are interested in the Christian faith will find a deeper understanding of the meaning of the Bible and they will be encouraged to apply the message of the Bible in their own lives.
2. Those who use it will understand and apply the message of the Bible individually as they live their lives for God, and in the broader community of their neighbors, and especially with other Christians in the worshipping community.
3. Those who use it will gain confidence in their translation of Scripture and be bold to share it with others.
4. Those who use it will help others to understand and apply the Word of God to their lives.
5. Those who use it will be inspired and challenged to help other language groups to get Scripture in their own language.

This guide is designed to be:

1. An additional resource that stands alongside and supports the teaching found in the Reviewers' Guide.
2. A series of questions based on the passages used in the Reviewers' Guide that ask the participants to apply what they are reading to their own experience and life.
3. A group or community process overseen by a team leader.

To use this guide, a group of Christians with new access to Scripture in their heart language could agree together to read and study the Bible together, and to discuss together the questions that are included in this study guide. One spiritual leader from a Christian church (a pastor, teacher, or leader, or perhaps one of the translators, etc.) should give leadership to the group so that the Applications Guide would be studied together in a group.

How to use this guide:

1. Scripture passages are listed before a series of questions. Read these passages in the newly translated Scripture.
2. The group leader will then ask the group the questions that follow the passages.
3. If possible (in places with high literacy) one person should be assigned to take notes on the answers to questions, especially any questions where individuals disagree or where an answer is unknown.
4. Work through the questions slowly--allow time for everyone to think about the passages and to answer if they choose.
5. At the end of each section of questions is a set of conclusion questions. The answers to these questions should be recorded whenever possible to be shared with a larger audience.

If you have any questions or comments about this guide, please email us at:
translation_services@wycliffeassociates.org

Doctrine: God loving/relational nature

Read: Matt 11:28-30; Heb 4:14-16

1. How do you know that God loves you?
2. How have you experienced Christ's love since you started believing in him?
3. What was your life like before coming to Christ?
4. What burdens have you laid down since following Christ?
5. What steps did you take to lay down your burden?
6. Based on the loving nature of God the Father and Jesus, how should you treat other people?
7. How can God's love for you help you carry the burdens of this life?
8. What in these passages encourages you to go to Christ for strength when you are tempted and for forgiveness when you give into temptation?
9. Considering what this passage says about Christ's attitude toward us, how should you treat other people when they are spiritually weak or have sinned?
10. If you know someone who has sinned and they are ashamed to pray to Jesus, how could you use this passage to encourage them?
11. Where do you go when you "go the throne of grace"?
12. Where is the throne of grace? How do you go there? What do you do when you get there?

Conclusion:

1. What do you understand better about God, yourself, and others from studying these passages?
2. Can you list five ways you could apply the message of these passages to your life?
3. When you pray, what can you thank God for from these passages?
4. Based on these passages, can you think of anything you need to repent of before God?

Doctrine: Holy Spirit (the work and person)

Read: John 14:16-17; John 16:12-14; Romans 8:9-11; 1 Cor 2:9-12

1. In what ways does the Holy Spirit confirm that he lives within you?
2. Describe a time when the Holy Spirit has taught you a spiritual truth or revealed to you the spiritual gift God wants to give you?
3. In what ways does the Holy Spirit communicate with you?
4. In what way has the Holy Spirit taught you to glorify God?
5. What are some steps you can take that would help you follow the Holy Spirit as you give God glory in your life?
6. Describe a time when the Holy Spirit helped you to resist temptation
7. What promises does the Holy Spirit give to you about your future (life, death)? What are specific ways the Holy Spirit comforts you?
8. What do you need to do to receive the comfort of the Holy Spirit?
9. In what ways does the Holy Spirit confirm that what he teaches you is true?

Conclusion:

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Doctrine: God the Father

Read: Matthew 6:1-13; 11:25-27; Mark 14:32-39; John 5:17-18; 5:36-47; 6:32-40; 20:16-17; Revelation 1:4-6

1. How has Jesus revealed to you what the Father is like?
2. What does it mean to you that you can call God “Father” when you pray?
3. Knowing that God is the Father of Jesus, how does that help you to trust in Jesus and pray to him?
4. Give examples of ways we give praise to God the Father of Jesus Christ?
5. What are some ways that we can praise the God and Father of Jesus Christ?
6. What are the spiritual blessings that God has blessed you with?

Conclusion:

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Doctrine: Jesus (Resurrection)

Read: Matthew 28:5-7; Acts 2:22-32; Romans 6:8-10; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

1. In what ways does the resurrection give you confidence about your future and the future of other Christians?
2. What is different about your life today, since you know that Christ died, and is now alive?
3. When do we typically think about the resurrection of Christ?
4. As the women told others about the resurrection, who have you told about the resurrection of Christ?
5. The first disciples saw the risen Christ. How are all Christians witnesses to the resurrection? How do you know that Jesus has risen from the dead?
6. What is true about you and every believer because of Christ's resurrection?
7. Describe how Christ's resurrection was unique.

Conclusion:

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Doctrine: Jesus (Deity of Christ)

Read: John 1:1-4; 14-18; John 20:26-29; Philippians 2:5-8; Colossians 1:15-20

1. In what ways is your worship different when you are living a life of obedience to God's purpose?
2. How does the life of Christ (the Word) give light to your life?
3. When Christ (the Word) gives you light, how does this give you direction (about what you should do and where you should go)?
4. Knowing that all things were made through Christ (the Word), how does that teach you to praise and worship Christ?
5. What specific things do you worship Christ for?
6. How have you seen the glory of Christ (the Word)?
7. In what ways does learning more about Christ from Scripture give you new ways to worship?
8. How have you been blessed from the fullness of Christ's grace?
9. What is a sign that you have received the fullness of the grace of Christ?
10. What do you learn about the Father from Jesus Christ? What do you learn about Jesus Christ from the Father?
11. Just as Jesus helped Thomas to believe, when has Jesus helped you when you struggled to believe in him?
12. Why is it important that our faith is in Christ and not in ourselves?
13. How does Jesus' decision to let go of his divine qualities and to humble himself as a human, teach you how Christians should live their lives?

Conclusion:

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Doctrine: Jesus (the Savior)

Read: Luke 2:8-14; 1 Timothy 1:15-16; 1 John 4:14-15

1. How have you changed spiritually now that you have believed in Jesus Christ as your Savior?
2. In what ways do you share the joy with others of the Savior coming to earth?
3. What do you learn about the character of Christ that he was born in a place where animals were kept?
4. In what ways do you celebrate the coming of Jesus as our Savior?
5. What does God expect us to do, to say, to think, now that we believe that Christ has died for our sins?
6. How does your salvation show others the great patience that God has with people?
7. How do you bear witness that God has sent Jesus as savior of the world?

Conclusion:

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Doctrine: The Son of God

Read: Matthew 3:16-17; 4:1-7; 14:22-33; 17:2-7; Luke 1:26-38; 10:21-22; John 3:16-18; 5:16-23; 10:25-39; Romans 1:1-4; 5:8-10; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28; Colossians 1:13-20; 1 John 2:22-24; 5:5-13.

1. In what ways did the Father show his love for Jesus?
2. How does the love the Father has for the Son teach us how we should love the Son?
3. What helps us to have faith in the Son of God?
4. Make a list of the ways that God helps you trust in the Son of God?
5. What does it mean to believe in the Son of God?
6. Share some examples of how you trusted the Son of God and how this brought you victory and peace.
7. How have you experienced the love of God through the Son?
8. Describe what it was like to feel that God had condemned you. Now describe how it feels when you remember that you are no longer condemned because of what Christ did for you. How has knowing this changed your life?
9. How has God set you apart for the Gospel about the Son of God? How do you show others the good news of the Son of God?
10. What is it like when God gives you confidence that he has chosen you, set you apart, loves you, and has forgiven you? What changes in you when these wonderful promises fill your life?
11. How does the resurrection prove to you that Jesus is the Son of God?
12. What about the resurrection builds your confidence in God?
13. What does it mean to you to hold firmly to your faith? How does knowing what the Son of God has done for you help you hold firmly to your faith?

Conclusion:

1. What do you understand better about God, yourself, and others from studying these passages?
2. Can you list five ways you could apply the message of these passages to your life?
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4. Based on these passages, can you think of anything you need to repent of before God?

Doctrine: Man

Read: Acts 17:24-28; Romans 3:9-18; Romans 5:12-14; Ephesians 2:1-3

1. What should man's attitude be towards God? Why?
2. When men and women come to God, what do they expect from God?
3. What does God expect of men and women who come to him?
4. If God does not need anything from man, what do you think is the purpose of man?
5. Describe what man is like before receiving God's grace.
6. What do all people deserve from God?
7. Do people who do not trust in the grace of God have a right to demand anything from him? Do they deserve anything from him?
8. What would you say your life was like before God saved you, forgave your sins, and promised you life with God forever?
9. What is your life like now that God has saved you, forgiven your sins, and given you the promise that you will live with God forever?
10. How does knowing the utter sinfulness of man affect how you praise and worship God?

Conclusion:

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Doctrine: Salvation

Read: John 3:16-18; Romans 3:23-26; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; Ephesians 2:8-9

1. What does God know about you?
2. What does he know about every human being?
3. How would you explain God's view to someone who is not a believer?
4. How would you explain to them the good news of Jesus Christ and his provision for the condition of mankind?
5. What would you say to someone who told you that Jesus is one good way to be forgiven and have a relationship with God, but that there are other ways as well?

Conclusion:

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Doctrine: The Church (Body of Christ)

Read: Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Ephesians 1:22-23

1. What are some of the gifts (skills, abilities, talents, and the like) that God has given to you?
2. In what ways can you use those gifts that God has given you to honor him?
3. Everyone has a different set of gifts. What are some ways that people with different gifts can work together to honor God?
4. What can the church do to show the world the character of Christ?
5. In what way does the church differ from other human organizations?

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Doctrine: Holiness of the Believer

Read: Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 4:17-24; Colossians 3:12-14

1. A sacrifice given to God in the Old Testament was killed, and then burned up for an offering. What is the difference between a dead sacrifice and a living sacrifice?
2. Describe how a person could offer themselves as a living sacrifice to God.
3. Tell about a time when you were able to know God's will for what he wanted you to do.
4. What are some ways that people can discover how God wants them to serve him?
5. What gift or gifts has God given you?
6. What are some skills or talents He has given you?
7. What opportunities has God given you to use those gifts and skills?
8. In what ways can you encourage other believers to use their gifts to serve the Lord and his people?
9. In what ways should the church support and encourage you in using your gifts and skills?
10. In what ways does the church community confirm that what you think may be a gift, is truly a gift God has given you?
11. In what ways has the way you think about yourself, about other people, and about God, changed since you became a Christian?
12. Why is what we think about so important to our life with God and with other people?
13. Why do you think it is important for Christians to be loving, compassionate, patient, and forgiving?
14. If a Christian is not loving, kind, forgiving like Christ, how would that affect his witness when he tells other people about Christ?
15. If a Christian is loving, kind, forgiving like Christ, how would that affect his witness when he tells other people about Christ?

Conclusion:

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Doctrine: Scripture (Divinely Inspired)

Read: 2 Timothy 3:14-17; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20-21

1. Why is it important to read the Bible?
2. How do we know that we can trust everything written in the entire Bible?
3. How has the Bible taught you?
4. In what ways has the Bible corrected you?
5. In what ways does the Bible prepare you for doing the good works God calls you to?
6. Describe how the Bible is alive and active in your life?
7. What would you tell a person who believes that some or all of the Bible is not true?

Conclusion:

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Doctrine: Missions

Read: Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:13-15

1. Why do you think it is important for Christians to tell other people about Jesus?
2. What are several ways you can tell other people about Jesus?
3. Where on the earth are people supposed to go and tell others about Christ?
4. What do you need to know about Jesus to tell others about him? What do you need to know about the person you are speaking with?
5. What gives you the courage and boldness to tell other people about Jesus?
6. How can a person make another person a disciple of Christ?
7. What is a good way to describe what a disciple is?
8. What are some activities that a disciple would do?
9. What would be some of the ways a disciple would prepare to serve God?
10. When Jesus said to 'make disciples' what did he mean?
11. What steps have you taken in making disciples as Jesus commanded?

Conclusion:

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Doctrine: The Christian Family

Read: Ephesians 5:21-33; Ephesians 6:1-4; 1 Timothy 5:1-4

1. In what ways should husbands and wives worship and serve Christ together? What are some activities that they could do together as husband and wife who are followers of Christ?
2. In what ways could wives submit to their husbands out of reverence to Christ?
3. How is the sacrificial love of the husband like the sacrificial love of Christ for his church?
4. In what ways could husbands love their wives the way Christ loves the Church?
5. How is the submission of the wife like the submission of Christ to the Father?
6. In what ways could children honor their parents?
7. What kinds of things do parents do that frustrate or make their children angry? What can parents do to avoid these kinds of things?
8. In what ways can a family honor the older members of the family? What are some ways that serving parents and grandparents strengthen the family and help the whole family work together?
9. What could you do in your family so that your family reflects the love of God to the world?

Conclusion:

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