

# Thrive



# Week Three: Bible Study

## Overview

In a culture surrounded by the impact of COVID-19, it's time for God's church to thrive. No matter how chaotic this world may seem, God has given us everything we need to thrive in our lives, our rhythms, with our resources, and in our relationships. So many of us will view this season that we're in as just a time of survival. But what if God is calling his church to thrive in the midst of chaos? What if God is calling you to become even more alive in him during this time? What if God is inviting his people to a deeper, more meaningful faith in him? We believe he is, and we're excited discuss this topic over the next few weeks.

This week - we looked at the spiritual discipline of studying scripture. Our sacred texts, collected over a period of a thousand years and written by a vast array of authors, form the canon of scripture that guides us in our daily faith. The scriptures, written by human authors through the leading of the Holy Spirit, point us to God's redemptive action in history, the saving work of Jesus Christ, and to the final restoration of all things. Containing narrative, poetry, letters, apocalyptic (Gk: unveiling) literature, etc., the texts that make up our Bibles point us to who God is through writings of many different genres, and through many differ historical and cultural backdrops. As George mentioned in his message, it's crucial that we remain rooted in scripture in order to thrive in our faith.

## Reading and Discussion

1. As you begin, spend some time in prayer for our country. Pray for an end to injustice and racism. Pray for an end to violence and rioting. Pray for those in leadership positions. Pray for God's peace and justice to ultimately prevail, and for his church to be a shining example of God's goodness and truth to a broken world.
2. Read Psalm 1. What does this first psalm say to you about the importance of remaining rooted in God's word?
3. Many of us remember memory verses from when we were kids. Though they may have been for prizes in Sunday school when we were younger, those passages and verses can be great sources of comfort as we grow older. What passages of scripture have helped you throughout your life? Share a favorite verse or passage and how it helps root you in your faith, if you feel comfortable.
4. As our lives grow busier and busier, we can get away from our spiritual routines. Often spending time in scripture can be one of the first things to go. Use this time to ask one another about practices/habits/means of engaging with scripture that you've found helpful, and have been able to be consistent with. If you feel led, commit to reading

through a Gospel or an Epistle with your group over the next couple of weeks, or months. If you choose to do this, encourage everyone in your group to read a chapter a day.