

January 9 - Week 1 – Questions to Consider

Matthew 1 & 2, Luke 1 & 2, John 1

1. Why do you think God included the genealogies of Jesus (Matthew 1 and also Luke 3)? What is different between them? What names do you recognize? Do any names appear that surprise you? How does this matter to us today?
2. How does the name “Immanuel” of Jesus impact you?
3. What kind of faith do you think it took for the wise men to make the journey they made? How does that encourage your faith?
4. Why was Luke written (Luke 1:4)? How does that encourage you to be more diligent in Bible reading in the year ahead?
5. How does the story of Zechariah and Elizabeth (Luke 1:5-25) challenge or encourage you?
6. Why do you think God sent angels alongside the sending of His Son?
7. Read Mary’s song (Lk 1:46-55). What do you love about this?
8. What do you think about Simeon and Anna’s appearance in Luke 2? How does their example inspire you?
9. Which is your favorite verse from John 1? Why?

General Discussion Questions

- What was something new you noticed this week? What impacted you the most? Why?
- Application Questions: How do you need to respond to and apply these truths to your life? (Is there a sin to avoid? A command to obey? An example to follow? A prayer to offer? A truth to remember or memorize? An attitude to change? A teaching to share?)

This Next Week’s New Testament Reading Plan:

Matthew 3 & 4, Mark 1, Luke 3 & 4

Connect with Jesus by Reading the Bible with Us!

- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcdevo
- **Our Plan:** www.southfork.church/2022-bible-reading-plan

Reading the New Testament in 2022: ***Giving Ourselves Sacrificially to Know Him Who Is True***

Luke 21:1–4 & Mark 12:41–44 (ESV)

Mark 12:41-44 “And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. [42] And a poor widow came and put in **two small copper coins, which make a penny.** [43] And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. [44] For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.” (ESV)

The Poor Widow

See Who She Is - By The World’s Standards, a Nobody

See Who Is Watching - Nothing Escapes God’s View

See Where She Is - Your Worship Matters to Jesus

See What She Is Doing - Your Sacrifice of Worship Is Significant to Jesus

See How Much She Is Giving - Loves the Lord Whole-Heartedly

See Why She Is Giving - God-Focus, Not Self-Focus

The Widow’s Mite:

What do you have “to live on” in 2022?

Time, Treasures, Talents, Thoughts

How did 2021 go?

You? Spouse? Family? Workplace? Neighborhood? Church?

What are your prayers and plans for 2022?

You? Spouse? Family? Workplace? Neighborhood? Church?

W_____ is the Purpose of Your Life?

John 17:3 “And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.” (ESV)

W____ Was Jesus Born? What Is His Purpose?

John 18:37 “Then Pilate said to him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.’”

W____ Does Jesus Want You to Know?

1 John 5:20 “And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.”

H___ Can You Know “Him Who Is True”?

Read the New Testament in 2022

2 Timothy 3:16–17 “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”

W____ You Give Yourself Sacrificially to Know God Better in 2022?

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.”

Why the Bible?

- 1. For Faith-Filled Belief** - John 20:31
- 2. Saves Souls** - James 1:21-25
- 3. Connects You with Father & Son** - 2 John 1:9
- 4. Living & Active** - Hebrews 4:12-13
- 5. Men Speaking from God the Holy Spirit** - 2 Peter 1:19-21
- 6. Revealed & Given for Our Obedience** - Deuteronomy 29:29
- 7. To Be Read & Taught** - 1 Timothy 4:11-16
- 8. To Instruct & Rebuke Others** - Titus 1:9
- 9. More Helpful than Money** - Psalm 119:72
- 10. More Loved than Money** - Psalm 119:127-128
- 11. Reveals God’s Will & Transforms Our Minds** - Romans 12:2
- 12. To Be Handled with Confidence** - 2 Timothy 2:15
- 13. Protects Us from Being Wrong** - Mark 12:24
- 14. God’s Weapon for Your Battles** - Ephesians 6:17
- 15. Eyewitness Testimony** - 2 Peter 1:16

Will You Make Plans Today to Fulfill God’s Purpose for You in 2022?

The Widow’s Mite - Bring Your Pennies

Reading the New Testament in 2022: Giving Ourselves Sacrificially to Know Him Who Is True

Luke 21:1-4 & Mark 12:41-44 (ESV)

Mark 12:41-44 “And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. [42] And a poor widow came and put in **two small copper coins, which make a penny**. [43] And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. [44] For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.” (ESV)

The Poor Widow

See Who She Is - By The World's Standards, a Nobody

See Who Is Watching - Nothing Escapes God's View

See Where She Is - Your Worship Matters to Jesus

See What She Is Doing - Your Sacrifice of Worship Is Significant to Jesus

See How Much She Is Giving - Loves the Lord Whole-Heartedly

See Why She Is Giving - God-Focus, Not Self-Focus

The Widow's Mite:

What do you have “to live on” in 2022?

Time, Treasures, Talents, Thoughts

How did 2021 go?

You? Spouse? Family? Workplace? Neighborhood? Church?

What are your prayers and plans for 2022?

You? Spouse? Family? Workplace? Neighborhood? Church?

What is the Purpose of Your Life?

John 17:3 “And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.” (ESV)

Why Was Jesus Born? What Is His Purpose?

John 18:37 “Then Pilate said to him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.’”

Who Does Jesus Want You to Know?

1 John 5:20 “And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.”

How Can You Know “Him Who Is True”?

Read the New Testament in 2022

2 Timothy 3:16-17 “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”

Will You Give Yourself Sacrificially to Know God Better in 2022?

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.”

Why the Bible?

1. For Faith-Filled Belief - John 20:31 “but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”

2. Saves Souls - James 1:21-25 “Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.”

3. Connects Your with Father & Son - 2 John 1:9 “Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.”

4. Living & Active - Hebrews 4:12-13 “For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.”

5. Men Speaking from God the Holy Spirit - 2 Peter 1:19-21 “And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no

prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”

6. Revealed & Given for Our Obedience - Deuteronomy 29:29 “The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.”

7. To Be Read & Taught - 1 Timothy 4:11-16 “Command and teach these things. Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.”

8. To Instruct & Rebuke Others - Titus 1:9 “He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.”

9. More Helpful than Money - Psalm 119:72 “The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.”

10. More Loved than Money - Psalm 119:127-128 “Therefore I love your commandments above gold, above fine gold. Therefore I consider all your precepts to be right; I hate every false way.”

11. Reveals God's Will & Transforms Our Minds - Romans 12:2 “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you

may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

12. To Be Handled with Confidence - 2 Timothy 2:15 “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.”

13. Protects Us from Being Wrong - Mark 12:24 “Jesus said to them, ‘Is this not the reason you are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God?’”

14. God’s Weapon for Your Battles - Ephesians 6:17 “take ... the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God”

15. Eyewitness Testimony - 2 Peter 1:16 “For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.”

Will You Make Plans Today to Fulfill God’s Purpose for You in 2022?

The Widow’s Mite - Bring Your Pennies