

**Week 8**

**May 23, 2021**

**Topic: Doctrine**

**Sermon Text:**

**Sermon Notes:**

## My Personal Discipleship Pathway:

What is the most important thing that I learned this week from the personal, spiritual disciplines that I chose to work through?

How will this truth impact my life? What will I do as a result?

What do I need to pray for as a result of my personal studies?

Who do I need to talk to about this for accountability?

Questions for Reflection:

Read **“Appendix 4: What is Christian Doctrine?”**

What four things does the Bible claim to be profitable for (2 Timothy 3:16-17)? What was God’s purpose for giving us His Word?

Read Ephesians 1:3-14. List out all the doctrinal truths that you see in this passage.

## Scripture Meditation Journal:

**Title:**

**Date:**

**Bible Reading:** 2 Timothy 1

**Focus Text:**

Consider using either the SOAP Journal or Lectio Divina method.

**Questions for Reflection:**

Next Sunday, Pastor David will be teaching on the meditation and memorization of God's Word. In today's Recharge, we want to challenge you to spend some time meditating on the passage that you studied on Day 1 of this week—Ephesians 1:3-14. If you need some help knowing what to do, please look at the guidelines in Appendix 5.

What truth from this passage did God lead you to focus on today?

Why do you think that He led you to focus on this?

How does that make you feel?

How will you respond to God's Word for you today?

## Scripture Meditation Journal:

**Title:**

**Date:**

**Bible Reading:** 2 Timothy 2

**Focus Text:**

Consider using either the SOAP Journal or Lectio Divina method.

**Questions for Reflection:**

**CHALLENGE: CHOOSE A STUDY TO WORK ON INDIVIDUALLY OR IN A SMALL GROUP FOR THE NEXT 6-8 WEEKS**

## Scripture Meditation Journal:

**Title:**

**Date:**

**Bible Reading:** 2 Timothy 3:1—4:8

**Focus Text:**

Consider using either the SOAP Journal or Lectio Divina method.



## Appendix 1:

# SOAP JOURNALING

As we read God's Word, we begin to see how God responds to things. Doing **daily devotions** re-patterns the way we think and transforms the spirit of the mind. Then, when we face similar situations as Jesus did, we begin to respond in the same way.

**Journaling is an excellent way to both record and process what God has spoken to us.** It's also a useful tool to use at a later time to reflect on and review some of the "gems" that you have received. Without writing these down, you may forget those blessings and some very important lessons!

**S for Scripture**  
Open your Bible to today's reading on your Bible Reading Plan. Take time reading and allow God to speak to you. When you are done, look for a verse that spoke to you that day, and write it in your journal.

**O for Observation**  
What is God saying in this scripture? Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and reveal the truth of this verse to you. Now write a one or two sentence observation about that verse. What does the verse say? What does it mean?

**A for Application**  
Personalize what you have read, by asking yourself how it applies to your life right now. Perhaps it is instruction, encouragement, revelation of a new promise, or correction for a particular area of your life. Now write how this Scripture can apply to you today.

**P for Prayer**  
This can be as simple as asking God to help you apply this Scripture, or it may be a greater insight on what He may be revealing to you. Remember, prayer is a two-way conversation, so be sure to listen to what God has to say!

Don't forget to give your journal entry a title and put it in the Table of Contents. This will help you find it when you want to read it again.

## Appendix 2:

# LECTIO DIVINA

Here is a brief outline of the *lectio divina* process. As mentioned before, *lectio divina* is an attempt to balance silence and the Word. Before you begin, choose a passage of Scripture that you would like to focus on. The passage should not be more than 6-8 verses in length.

Once you have your Bible ready, begin with a time of silence. There is no specific timeframe here, but it should be long enough to clear your mind of the “world’s noise” so you can focus on your time with God. Each time you read your passage, read it aloud and read it slowly so that the Holy Spirit has time to speak to your heart in the process. You will need a journal to be able to record the things that God reveals to you through this process. God bless you as you seek Him!

### **Silence**

Focused breathing while praying Psalm 119:18.

### **First Reading – Read (*Lectio*)**

Looking for God’s Word for me from His Word.

### **Silence**

Focused breathing while thinking about God’s word for me.

### **Second Reading – Reflect (*Meditatio*)**

Why is this God’s Word for me today?

### **Silence**

### **Third Reading – Respond (*Oratio*)**

How will I respond to God’s Word for me today?

### **Silence**

### **Fourth Reading – Rest (*Contemplatio*) & Resolve (*Incarnatio*)**

Resolving to abide in and obey His Word for me today.

## Appendix 3:

# TEMPLE'S DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY

Here is a brief outline of the discipleship studies that are available here at Temple. Each Discipleship Path is a nine week study—with three weeks focused on each of the topics. These studies are available online or on paper—whatever you prefer. Contact Pastor Wade for more information about getting started on the discipleship journey today!

### **DISCIPLESHIP PATH ONE**

- Assurance of Life in Christ
- Prayer and the Christian Life
- Faith and the Christian Life

### **DISCIPLESHIP PATH TWO**

- The Bible and the Christian Life
- Bible Study and the Christian Life
- God's Will and the Christian Life

### **DISCIPLESHIP PATH THREE**

- Lordship and the Christian Life
- Integrity and the Christian Life
- Holiness and the Christian Life

### **DISCIPLESHIP PATH FOUR**

- Relationships and the Christian Life
- Forgiveness and the Christian Life
- Family and the Christian Life

### **DISCIPLESHIP PATH FIVE**

- Personal Worship and the Christian Life
- Public Worship and the Christian Life
- Stewardship and the Christian Life



## Appendix 4:

# WHAT IS CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE?

Doctrine, by definition, is “a set of beliefs or stated principles.” In a practical sense, doctrine refers to the content of one’s teaching. If that doctrine is Christian then it focuses on the teachings of Christ as found in the Holy Bible.

The Bible itself claims to be a book of doctrines given to mankind by an Almighty God. In 2 Timothy 3:16-17, the Bible says, “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.”

If the Bible is profitable for teaching and training then it is imperative that we learn what it says. When we are in school, we learn about the science of living things (Biology). In the same way, we need to learn about God, which is Theology (from the Greek *theos* for God and *logia* for study or learning). There are three primary methods utilized in the study of God: 1) **Biblical Theology**, 2) **Historical Theology**, and 3) **Systematic Theology**. While Systematic Theology is most common, all three disciplines are important.

Biblical Theology focuses primarily on what the Bible says as it says it. Biblical Theology seeks to discover and understand the teachings of the sixty-six books of God’s revelation as these truths are progressively (or chronologically) revealed in Scripture. Consider this as an example: Abraham obeyed God by making a sacrifice to Him on Mt. Moriah, but Abraham’s understanding of the need for blood sacrifice as an atonement for sin was not as complete as Moses and Aaron’s understanding because so much happened between Genesis 22 and Exodus 12 when God instituted the Passover. In time, God revealed more and more truth about it and the understanding of this doctrine became more and more complete. Paul explains the scope and grandeur of our salvation through Jesus Christ in Ephesians 1:3-14 when he describes all the spiritual blessings that are ours through Jesus’ sacrifice.

Historical Theology focuses on the beliefs of the church throughout history. Doctrinal understanding has continued to develop over time. In Historical Theology, “the great events and major participants are examined and critiqued to help God’s people see how we arrived where we are today.” (Daniel Akin)

Systematic Theology focuses on how all the truth of Scripture fits together—enabling us to have the most complete understanding of its teaching in a number of different categories. It is called Systematic Theology because it limits its focus to the different systems (or topics) that are being studied. Here is a list of the ten most common systems of theology (with their proper names):

1. Doctrine of God (Theology)
2. Doctrine of the Bible (Bibliology)
3. Doctrine of Man (Anthropology)
4. Doctrine of Sin (Hamartiology)
5. Doctrine of Salvation (Soteriology)
6. Doctrine of Christ (Christology)
7. Doctrine of the Holy Spirit (Pneumatology)
8. Doctrine of Angels (Angelology)
9. Doctrine of the Church (Ecclesiology)
10. Doctrine of End Times (Eschatology)

The study of Theology (or Christian Doctrine) is a lifelong pursuit. Thousands of books have been written on the subject—some are excellent and some are not worth the paper they are printed on. These theological texts are helpful, but we must never forget that God chose to reveal Himself to us through His Holy Word. When studying Theology, the Bible must always be our primary source of information!