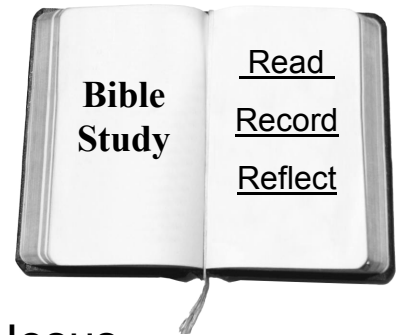




## GRACIOUSLY FOCUSED ON THE TRUTH

### ▲ In regard to Truth, we believe:

- God is Truth.
- Jesus incarnated Truth.
- The Bible is the authoritative Word of God.
- The Holy Spirit enables us to know Truth.



### ▲ In response to Truth, we commit to:

- Study the Bible to know Jesus.
- Obey the Bible to experience the life of Jesus.
- Teach the Bible with courage and love.

**Getting Started:** What “Christian” bumper sticker, sign, or billboard have you found amusing? Was it true? Do you think it represented the truth well? Why or why not?

**Digging In:** Read Acts 2:42-47. How did the religion and culture of the Jews provide a foundation for the practice of being taught the Word of God (Deut 6:4-9)? As the church grew in Acts what happened to the Word of God (Acts 12:24;13:39; 19:20)? How did the apostles and Paul view the relationship between Jesus and the Old Testament scripture (Acts 2:15-34; 8:30-35; 10:43; 13:7-23; 17:2)? What further insight do these verses (John 1:1-5, 14; 14:6; 18:37; Col 2:3) give about Jesus in relationship to Truth? What do these verses (2Tim 3:15-17; Rom 15:4; 2Pet 1:20-21) assert about the Bible in relationship to Truth? How do these verses (Deut 8:3; Ps 119:9-11; Mt 4:1-11; Rom 12:1-12) call us to respond to the Bible? Why is graciousness important when we communicate truth to others (Jn 1:14; Gal 6:1; Col 3:16; 1Tim 1:5; 3:15; Jam 3:13-18)?

**Living It Out:** If someone asked you to “prove” the Scriptures are God’s Word, on what would you base your answer? Read Deut 6:4-9 and 8:3. Compare the intensity of your belief in and commitment to the bible with these verses. Of the three responses to Truth listed above, which will you commit to this week? Is there anything in the Bible you are not obeying? What has been, or will be, the consequences of your disobedience? Will you repent? When teaching the bible, which do you need more: courage or love? How will you grow in this area?