

STUDY GUIDE | 35 LESSONS

DRIVE BY
THEOLOGY

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Drive By Theology: Study Guide and Curriculum

This guide is a companion to the 35-part Drive By Theology audio series available at www.Wretched.org

By Roger and Becky Patterson and family

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STUDY GUIDE & CURRICULUM INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Drive By Theology Study Guide & Curriculum. This curriculum has been designed to provide a flexible and systematic way to study the various doctrines found in Scripture. Todd Friel leads you through this study of the truths of Christian faith with the help of Pastor Steven J. Lawson (aka Dr. Metaphor). You will find yourself laughing at their wisecracking as you are drawn through an engaging dialogue explaining the important aspects of the doctrines found throughout Scripture—all pointing to the redemption that comes through Jesus Christ. These events will be presented in thirty-five parts arranged into eight broad topics. After studying through these lectures, you will be able to tell your friends the difference between ecclesiology and eschatology—and a bunch of other -ologies.

Each of the lectures is only about twenty minutes, so there is no way you can learn everything there is to know about the doctrines revealed in the sixty-six books of the Bible. This curriculum is intended to serve as a guide and a springboard for you to dig deeper into the doctrines that get a “drive by” treatment in the lectures. As you hear a doctrine, person, or place mentioned by the speakers, you will find it listed on the lesson outlines with a small space to record some of the things you hear or questions you might have. The purpose of each of the sections is described below.

How much you learn from this curriculum will depend on how much you put into it. You can go all out and turn this into a year-long project or simply use it as a way to look into a few of the things that catch your interest. If you want to understand more about how different denominations within the Church view the *ordo salutis*, spend some time looking at their teachings. Whether you are using this as a family study at the dinner table, a self-improvement project, a summer project for your kids to study, or a Bible curriculum for your homeschooler, you will find exciting things as you learn about how God has revealed Himself to us in the pages of Scripture.

LESSON OUTLINE SECTIONS

Lecture Themes — This section provides a rough outline for the lecture with the basic themes presented. You can use these spaces to take notes and write down Scripture references to look up after you finish listening. While some of the references mentioned in the lecture are given, the guys rattle off lists of supporting texts, so you will need to hit the pause button a few times to catch them all.

Doctrines/Terminology — Here you will find various doctrines and assorted terms mentioned in the lectures. Some of these may be orthodox views within Protestant Christianity, while those marked with (RC) will identify ideas of the Roman Catholic Church. Other terms may be general descriptions or identified with certain religious or political views, like Islam. Some ideas may be repeated over several lessons, so it would be wise to scan ahead to see what topics are covered multiple times.

People — Any individuals mentioned in the discussion will be listed here. People will not be present in every lesson.

Groups/Movements — You'll find lots of -isms and -ites with the listing of the groups of people, but groups will not be present in every lesson.

Additional Study — This section offers suggestions for expanding your understanding of the topics. You will have to do a little extra research to find the information. Don't be limited by the specific suggestions, but use ideas from other lessons to enhance your understanding of the ideas presented. You will find resources in the appendices at the end that will help you complete the research.

Devotional/Application Questions — Here you will be given questions that will ask you to think about what you have just heard. Some may focus on what is happening in the Church today, while others will get to your own heart attitudes. There will always be a connection to Jesus Christ and His significance in history and the lives of His followers—hopefully that includes you.

Memory Passages — There will be suggested memory verses related to each of the eight parts presented in the lectures. Use these to meditate on the truths of Scripture explained in the lectures. We have not written out the passages, so you are encouraged to memorize them in your preferred version. Make note cards of the verses, and keep them in your pocket to help you hide God's words in your heart (Psalm 119:11).

PLAN OF ATTACK

Below are some general guidelines you may wish to use as you study Drive By Theology. Make the most of your study by intentionally finding ways to bring the Bible and especially the person and work of Jesus into your thinking of the doctrines and marvelous truths revealed in God's Word.

As you listen to each lecture, consider reading over the lesson outline to prepare you for what you are about to hear, listening through the entire lecture once, and then listening again. Pause when you need to take a note or write down an idea you would like to explore further. Regardless of how you use this curriculum, you should dedicate a notebook (electronic or paper) to this study where you can write down answers to the questions and more information about the people and topics studied.

Personal Study — Using this curriculum as a personal study, you might want to do two or three lessons a week. Consider listening through all of Part I and then going back and studying each lesson in more detail. After that, read the section of a systematic theology text for each of the topics in Part I.

Family Study — Whether sitting around the dinner table or a dish of ice cream in the family room, you can listen to the lectures as a family and then take some time to answer questions about big words and ideas. Use the questions in each lesson to discuss the ideas, and have your Bible handy to look up any of the passages mentioned, making sure you point everyone to Christ at some point in the discussion. The lectures will provide many opportunities to understand who God is and what He has done for those who have been adopted in Christ.

Homeschool Study — Using this curriculum as a guide and employing all of the additional study ideas and additional resources could easily turn into a year-long project. Doing a lecture or two per week as you develop a timeline of the development of different doctrines, research dates, mark important cities and councils on a map, and examine your life in light of the teachings of history and Scripture will be a very rewarding experience. The material in the lectures and the curriculum are appropriate for ages twelve and up. In the Resource Appendix at the end of this document, you will find many additional resources and a proposed schedule and lesson plan, as well as other ideas for incorporating various disciplines into your study.

**THE DOCTRINE
OF SCRIPTURE**
CHAPTER 1



LECTURE 1

LECTURE THEMES

- Defining Systematic Theology
- Benefits of Study
- Parts/Whole
- Other Systems of Study
- Various -ologies
- Biblical Presuppositions
- Justification for Using Systematics

DOCTRINES/ TERMINOLOGY

- Systematic Theology
- Queen of the Sciences
- Redemptive History
- Hermeneutics
- Progressive Revelation
- Exegesis
- Eisegesis
- Analogy of Faith (Scripture)
- Biblical Theology
- Presuppositions (Prolegomena)

ADDITIONAL STUDY

Find definitions for any terms used in the lecture that you are unfamiliar with.

Identify the languages and at least fifteen major authors used to write the Bible in its original manuscripts.

Read Chapter 2 from *Already Gone* at <http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/ag/sunday-school-syndrome> to understand some of the issues that surround “Bible stories.”

Identify passages other than those listed in the lecture that could be used to support the biblical presuppositions of authority and unity.

MEMORY PASSAGES

2 Peter 1:19-21 | 2 Timothy 2:15 | 2 Timothy 3:16-17

DEVOTIONAL QUESTIONS

1. How does the study of theology influence the mind, affections, and will?
2. How would you describe the ultimate goal of the study of theology? Has this goal been met in your own life?
3. What comes to mind when you hear the word “story”? Are stories always true? What is the danger of describing the Bible as a collection of stories rather than using words like account or history?
4. What do we learn about God's character from the unity of the Bible's message?
5. What are some of the benefits of understanding biblical truths in a systematic way? How have you seen this benefit in your Christian life? How can a mere academic study of Scripture be dangerous?
6. Why is it important to understand our presuppositions when studying the Bible?
7. Read Luke 24. How does this chapter give a justification for systematic theology?
8. How do you hope to grow to be more like Jesus by studying the Bible systematically?

LECTURE 2

LECTURE THEMES

- God's Revelation to Us
- The Word of God
- Old Testament Inspiration
- New Testament Inspiration
- Implications of the Bible's Authority

DOCTRINES/ TERMINOLOGY

- Bibliology
- General Revelation
- Special Revelation
- Inspiration (theopneustos)
- Prophet
- Infallible
- Inerrant

ADDITIONAL STUDY

Find definitions for any terms used in the lecture that you are unfamiliar with.

Examine the Heidelberg Catechism and the Westminster Shorter Catechism. What is the first major section in each?

Find five passages where Jesus appeals to the Old Testament as an authority. Describe how each of these passages is used by Jesus.

Read 1 Timothy 3:16 in at least five different versions, and identify the different ways theopneustos is translated.

Explain to another person (or record in your notebook) how your understanding of the inspiration of Scripture has changed through studying this lecture. Consider using this as an evangelistic opportunity in a letter or phone call to an unsaved loved one.

MEMORY PASSAGES

2 Peter 1:19-21 | 2 Timothy 2:15 | 2 Timothy 3:16-17

DEVOTIONAL QUESTIONS

1. Why does it make more sense to start a study of systematic theology with the doctrine of Scripture (bibliology) rather than the doctrine of God?
2. Compare the different ways God has revealed Himself to us. Which of these is most specific?
3. How do Hebrews 1:1–5 and Exodus 4:10–16 and 7:1–4 help us understand how God has spoken to us throughout history?
4. What do Jeremiah 9:23; Isaiah 44:6; and Ezekiel 14:4–6 affirm about the Old Testament writings? How do these verses, in conjunction with Hebrews 6:13–18, affirm the truthfulness of Scripture?
5. How does 2 Timothy 3:15–17, a New Testament passage, point to the inspiration of the Old Testament books? In what other ways does the New Testament affirm the Old Testament?
6. Read 2 Peter 3:14–16 and 1 Timothy 5:18 (c.f. Luke 10:7). How do these passages give you assurance of the authority of the New Testament?
7. How does 1 Peter 1:10–12 demonstrate the unity of the Old Testament and New Testament? How does this impact your view of reading the Old Testament?
8. How does the biblical definition of inspiration differ from the way the word is commonly used today?
9. How does 2 Peter 1:20–21 describe the delivery of Scripture?
10. How does a better understanding of the doctrine of inspiration, including all of the passages used to support it, help you trust what Jesus has done for you by dying on the Cross and being raised to life on the third day?