

God's Story

ACT 1: God's Plan For All People.

Scene 1 -- Creation: The God of all life.

Scene 2 -- Fall: Rejecting God's vision for life

Scene 3 -- Flood: God judges and makes covenant to preserve life.

ACT 2: God's Covenant People.

Scene 1 -- The people: God calls a covenant people.

Scene 2 -- Deliverance: God rescues His people.

Scene 3 -- Covenant & Law: God embraces and instructs His people.

Scene 4 -- The Land: God's place for His people.

Scene 5 -- Kings & Prophets: God shapes a kingdom people.

Scene 6 -- Kings & Prophets II: God divides the kingdom people.

Scene 7 -- Kings & Prophets III: The southern kingdom as God's people.

Scene 8 -- Exile: God disciplines His people.

Scene 9 -- Return: God delivers His people.

ACT III: God's New Covenant People.

Scene 1 -- Christ's Coming: God's true king arrives.

Scene 2 -- Christ's Ministry: God's true king manifests His kingdom.

Scene 3 -- Christ's Deliverance of His people: God's work through the death, resurrection, and enthronement of His king,

Scene 4 -- Christ's Church: God's people advance the kingdom.

Scene 5 -- Christ's Second coming and reign: God's future for the kingdom.

The foundational problem in the issue of Bible and doctrinal illiteracy is quite simple... We no longer read the Bible, even in the Church.

A Foundational Understanding:

- Read the Bible to know the Bible...
- Know the Bible to know truth...
- Know the truth to be set free...
- Be set free to experience the Power life in Christ.

In Church Goers...

- 16% read the bible every day
- 32% read the bible at least once a week
- 37% say that reading and studying the Bible has made a significant difference in the way they live their lives

The Depth and Extent Biblical Literacy Problem:

- Gallup Survey: Less than Half of Americans can name the 1st book of the Bible (Genesis). 12% of Christians thought Noah's wife was Joan of Arc.
- Barna says 80% of the born again Christians believe it is the Bible that says, "God helps them that help themselves."
- 1/3 of Americans knew who delivered the Sermon on the Mount. Some said Billy Graham...
- ¼ do not know what is celebrated on Easter.

Study of Freshman at Wheaton College:

- 1/3 could not put the following in proper sequence order:
 - Abraham
 - O T Prophets
 - Death of Christ
 - Pentecost
- 1/3 could not identify Matthew as an apostle from the list of NT names.
- 1/3 could not identify the book of Acts as the location of Paul's missionary travels. 1/2 did not know that the Christmas story was in Matthew.
- 1/2 did not know that the Passover was in Exodus 5.

Gallup's Conclusion: "We revere the Bible, but we don't read it