

Curriculum



Christmas
The true gift



LEARN: Overview

Biblical Business Training (“BBT”) equips people to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and empowers leaders in a small-group Bible study setting to apply Biblical principles at work. Our mission is [Faith for Work](#) – and our vision is [Leadership for Life!](#)

To find out more, visit www.B-B-T.org.



Curriculum: The *BBT 1-2-3™* Format

BBT's curriculum is Biblically-based and applicable the day you study it. The *BBT 1-2-3™* format enables the group to consistently fit a meeting into a busy work week (e.g. before work or over a lunch hour, etc.). The Agenda and Recap are sent through Go!Connect to help group members prepare and continue discussion for accountability.



Agenda – Introduces applicable Biblical principles



Group Leader Guide – Facilitates discussion and allows for shared leadership



Recap – Encourages community and application



LIVE: Apply Biblical principles at work

Small group discussion begins typically with prayer, reading the Agenda together for context, then reading scripture and discussing the included questions. Questions are chosen to help the members in the study apply the scripture to their workplace and lives through group discussion. The Application Question is for group application and accountability between meetings.

Sample discussion question: Read Nehemiah 7:1-3. What do these verses teach you about delegation?

Sample application question: In what areas of your life have you been encouraged to do some humble self-evaluation and practice repentance?



LEAD: Start a small-group Bible study

The Lead question is for holistic life application at work, home, church, and in the community.

Sample lead question: Ask Yourself: How can I have the courage to face opposition, engage in necessary confrontation, and encourage others where God has placed me?

Learn more at:

Curriculum Samples: <https://b-b-t.org/curriculum/>

Contact a Coach: <https://b-b-t.org/coaching/>

Start Leading: <https://b-b-t.org/startleading/>



PRAYERS



LEARN

Christmas

The colorful lights, the familiar songs, the sights, and the smells - they all evoke strong memories and emotions in us around Christmas. The collective cultural consciousness tells us Christmas is for gift-giving, gift-receiving, and pure joy for all people. For some, however, their reflections and experiences are far from happy and often feel even worse during the holiday season. Even the exchange of gifts and the sparkly lights are not enough to dispel the darkness and yield true comfort and joy.

Giving

But Jesus came to rescue us, *all* of us. The truth of Christmas is revealed in the light of Jesus' love through sacrifice, mercy through forgiveness, and rescue through weakness. These are His gifts to us, not only at Christmas but always. He came to reveal the true nature of our hearts, to walk alongside those in need, to give hope to the hopeless, and to give grace to all sinners. The reason everyone should be celebrating is because Jesus came to bring humanity back to Himself no matter how far we stray. He already made the first move.

Receiving

Have you received it? Our response to this outpouring of unconditional love can often be conditional. Yet out of the mouths of babes come the most profound and innocent truths. For example, when talking to a child about the reason for Christmas, she asked, "So, Jesus came to die for the bad things I do?" After some time had passed, she came back with a profound example from which we can all learn. She said, "It's like running into the road. That's a bad thing for me to do, but Jesus ran out in the road too and got hit by the car so I wouldn't die."

"Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." ([Mark 10:15](#) and [Luke 18:17](#))



LIVE

Discussion questions: Read the text and scriptures below, and prepare to answer the questions.

1. Read [Galatians 4:4-6](#) and [John 1:4-5, 9, 14](#). For what are you grateful to Jesus for illuminating in your life?
2. Read [Luke 15:11-32](#). Are you in need of a second chance and forgiveness or know someone who is? How does seeing and accepting God's grace help?
3. Read [Psalm 119:105](#) and [John 8:12](#). How will you allow the light of God's Word to illuminate your walk through this holiday season?
4. Read [Hebrews 4:14-16](#). How has Jesus rescued you in your weakness? Do you empathize with the weakness of others because of it?
5. Read [1 Timothy 6:6-10](#). How will you resist the temptations and distractions of this world and remain focused on the true gift of Jesus?

Application Question: What will you do to bring awareness of the true gift of Christmas to those with whom you live, work, and play?



PRAYERS



PRAYERS

Opening Prayer & Prayer Requests



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Before you begin, read the AGENDA LEARN introduction together and review the APPLICATION QUESTION from the previous meeting's RECAP.



LIVE

Discussion Questions: Have someone read each Bible verse aloud and then ask the corresponding question. Be sure everyone has enough time to find the Scripture before the verse is read.

- 1) Read [Galatians 4:4-6](#) and [John 1:4-5, 9-14](#). For what are you grateful to Jesus for illuminating in your life?



Jesus is THE Christmas light – the living Word, becoming flesh and dwelling among us.



Christmas – a perfect, timely gift, then and now, for the redemption of all people. The light of Jesus not only enlightens us but searches our hearts. A season of reflection, renewal, and imagination. We do not get to see, touch, or smell the events of Jesus' birth but envision what is recorded in history and trust it as truth.



Write down three ways you can share the light of Jesus with others. (see [John 3:17](#))

Notes:

- 2) Read [Luke 15:11-32](#). Are you in need of a second chance and forgiveness or know someone who is? How might seeing and accepting God's grace help?



The gift of forgiveness and reconciliation takes initiative by someone to begin the healing process.



The story of the prodigal son reminds us that Jesus made the first move. Just like the father in the story, who embraces the returning son. Our salvation doesn't happen without Jesus, obedient to the Father's will, choosing not to hold a grudge or pile on the punishment, but to sacrifice His life in our place. It is the ultimate in second chances that we are called to offer others.

Notes:

- 3) Read [Psalm 119:105](#) and [John 8:12](#). How will you allow the light of God’s Word to illuminate your walk through this holiday season?



When you walk without the light of the world, you remain spiritually blind.



When the sun went down in ancient Israel, it wasn’t just dark, it was pitch black. Carrying a lamp in the darkness was vital to see the path in front of you – something most of us have never experienced in today’s modern world. But for us, God’s Word is a lamp for our feet and light to our path, yet we often head off to work or play without it. This light also reveals the state of our hearts and maybe things we don’t like to see.

Notes:

- 4) Read [Hebrews 4:14-16](#). How has Jesus rescued you in your weakness? Do you empathize with the weakness of others because of it?



Jesus felt human weakness just like we do and was tempted just as we are.



Jesus left His position in heaven to experience what it was like to be human. He was tempted in all the ways we are tempted. Jesus knows what it’s like and has empathy for us! Imagine if the focus of Christmas wasn’t the idyllic, happy, healthy, beautiful, perfect family but instead on celebrating our rescue! Jesus came to rescue us, all of us. He knows our pain and can empathize with our situations – our loneliness, ugliness, failings, and sin. Jesus wants us to respond with the same empathy to others’ weaknesses.

Notes:

- 5) Read [1 Timothy 6:6-10](#). How will you resist the temptations and distractions of this world and remain focused on the true gift of Jesus?



The excessive focus on commercialism all around you can tempt and distract you from the unconditional gift of Jesus.



God wanted to reconcile humanity to himself and did so when Jesus willingly died for our sins. Christmas celebrates the birth of a savior and the incredible hope and forgiveness we are commanded to extend because we are also forgiven! (see [Romans 5:8](#))



Discuss practical ways you can hold each other accountable to remain focused on celebrating the true reason for the season and shining His light to others.

Notes:

Application Question: What will you do to bring awareness of the true gift of Christmas to those with whom you live, work, and play?



PRAYERS

Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer



LEAD

Ask Yourself: To whom do I need to show mercy in the same way Jesus forgave me?

Sample



PRAYERS

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ROADMAP

The truth of Christmas is revealed in the light of Jesus' love through sacrifice, mercy through forgiveness, and rescue through weakness.



LEARN

God loves humanity so much that He was willing to send His own Son, even to die for us. God is like the father in the story of the Prodigal Son: always ready and willing to take His children back no matter how far they have strayed. Paul points out to the Hebrews that through becoming human in Christ, God has experienced all the weaknesses that we experience.

Scripture References for this study: [Mark 10:15](#), [Luke 18:17](#), [Galatians 4:4-6](#), [John 1:4-5, 9-14](#), [Luke 15:11-32](#), [John 3:17](#), [Psalm 119:105](#), [John 8:12](#), [Hebrews 4:14-16](#), [1 Timothy 2:6-10](#), and [Romans 5:8](#)



LIVE

- Love through Sacrifice
- Mercy through Forgiveness
- Rescue through Weakness

Application Question: What will you do to bring awareness of the true gift of Christmas to those with whom you live, work, and play?



LEAD

Ask Yourself: To whom do I need to show mercy in the same way Jesus forgave me?