

1 **Week 1: Introduction: Finding the Story in Scripture** (CCC 50-1410)

2 **OBJECTIVE:** Find God's plans (Story of Salvation) concealed in the Bible and how understand it so we
3 can live a fruitful life using a pastoral approach (different from academic approach)

4 **1. Introduction: 73 Books in Bible** (other non-Catholic Bibles only have 66 books); Two Testaments: Old
5 Testament and New Testament; different Bibles (Protestant/Catholic)¹

6 **2. Approach Bible:** 1. There is a Story 2. Assume attitude of Humility; 3. Through eyes of a child;

7 **3. We are hardwired for STORY;** hardwired for a PLAN; Everybody looking for a plan; everybody
8 looking for a story; God has a plan for us; He did not send talk shows into world to give us His plan;
9 He gave us Scripture! God's Plan – calls together all scattered and divided by sin into unity of His
10 family - the Church

11 **4. Catechism of Catholic Church** takes what we understand in all things Catholic (Catholic "Heap") and
12 puts into a structure; four manageable parts (or pillars of the Church)

13 Part 1: Profession of Faith (The Creed) – THE PLAN

14 Part 2: Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacred Liturgy; especially Sacraments) – How to
15 become a part of THE PLAN

16 Part 3: Life in Christ (including Ten Commandments) – how we live as part of God's PLAN; the
17 RULES

18 Part 4: Christian Prayer (including the Lord's Prayer) – ensures we understand THE STORY;
19 our communication

20 **5. People do not have long patience for stories that make no sense, or they cannot be part of but *Ignorance***
21 *of Scripture is ignorance of Christ*; Bible is not a book but a library, a **CANON**² (not written in
22 chronological order)

23 **6. Bible is ordered by *Types of Literature* GENRE**³ all STITCHED together (Historical books, poetry
24 books, wisdom literature, prophetic, gospel, and personal letters) – so need **KEYS** to understand THE
25 STORY.

26 **7. Bible Timeline study** designed, and color coded into 12 Periods: Early World, Patriarchs, Egypt and
27 Exodus, Desert Wanderings, Conquest and Judges, Royal Kingdom, Divided Kingdom, Exile,
28 Return, Maccabean Revolt, Messianic Fulfillment, The Church

29 **8. Review of Readings:** (Cannot *hurt* the Word of God; Do not be afraid)

30 a. We are not primarily *People of the Book*; we are People of the Word **INCARNATE** – Jesus
31 Christ (CCC 105, 106, 107)

32 b. Jesus proclaims TRUTH – some written, some orally (Written TORAH), some *sacred*
33 tradition; fullness of God is combination of these as interpreted by the **MAGISTERIUM**⁴
34 (Holy Father in union with Bishops) (CCC 107, 109, 110, 111)

35 Criteria to understand the Bible

36 1. (CCC 112) "Be attentive to the content and unity of the whole scripture".

37 2. (CCC 113) "Read...within living tradition of the whole church."

38 3. (CCC 114) "Be attentive to analogy of faith." (Coherence of the truths of faith among
39 themselves and within the whole plan of Salvation.)

40 **11. Senses of Scripture (CCC 116) How to Read the Bible**

41 1. **Literal Sense** – intended meaning of the author within context and/or culture; leads to
42 Spiritual Sense

43 2. **Spiritual Sense** –

44 a. Allegorical Sense – how does it relate to Jesus Christ?

45 b. Moral Sense – how does it relate to my conduct in my everyday life?

46 c. Future – how does this relate to the future?

47 **12. Closing thoughts**

48 1. You are not alone

49 2. Prayer should be important part of your study

50 3. Get some markers and highlight what God is saying to you

51 4. If fall behind, catch up - NOT give up!

52 5. When excuses stop and you respond, your life changes!

53 ¹**Types of Catholic Bibles**

Abbreviation	Name	Date
CCB	Christian Community Bible	1988
NRSV-CE	New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition	1991
GNT-CE	Good News Translation Catholic Edition ⁵	1993
RSV-2CE	Revised Standard Version, Second Catholic Edition	2006

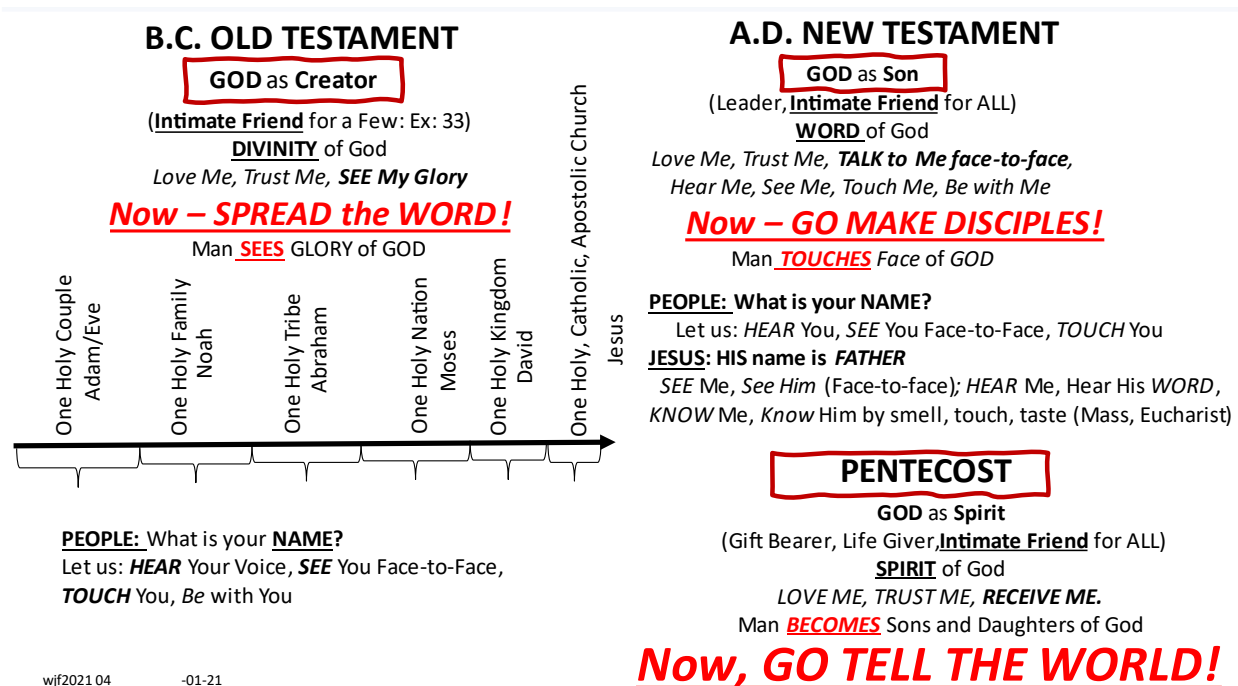
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55 ²**CANON** - The use of the word "canon" originated in reference to a set of texts derives from Biblical
 56 canon, the set of books regarded as scripture, as contrasted with non-canonical Apocrypha.

57 **Apocrypha** are works, usually written, of unknown authorship or of doubtful origin.^[1] Biblical
 58 apocrypha is a set of texts included in the Latin Vulgate and Septuagint but not in the Hebrew
 59 Bible. While Catholic tradition considers some of these texts to be deuterocanonical, Protestants
 60 consider them apocryphal. Thus, Protestant bibles do not include the books within the Old
 61 Testament but have often included them in a separate section. Other non-canonical apocryphal
 62 texts are generally called pseudepigrapha, a term that means "false writings".^[2]
 63 The word's origin is the Medieval Latin adjective *apocryphus*, "secret, or non-canonical", from
 64 the Greek adjective ἀπόκρυφος (*apokryphos*), "obscure", from the verb ἀποκρύπτειν (*apokryptein*),
 65 "to hide away"

66 ³**Gen-re** - a category of artistic composition, as in music or literature, characterized by similarities in
 67 form, style, or subject matter.

68 ⁴**Magisterium**: The magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church is the church's authority or office to give
 69 authentic interpretation of the Word of God, "whether in its written form or in the form of Tradition."
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