

LOVING THE STORY

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:16-19

A Bible itself, just like any other book, is merely a book filled with words. So how does a book filled with words allow us to grow closer to God, and explore our faith in Him? It takes the realization that God's story doesn't just take place within a book. It is, in fact, happening all around us, and we are interacting with His story every moment of our lives. And we, as growing Christians, must learn to embrace it.

As students become more mature, they transition from a faith that is primarily external (i.e. family based) to one that is primarily internal (i.e. individual), and it is crucial that, in this time of transition, they embrace the uniqueness of their own faith journey in order to become equipped and empowered with the knowledge, wisdom, and conviction that God has to offer. The Bible...God's story...provides us with these three things in ways that we can incorporate into our lives.

In this module, students will explore these three tools that scripture provides, and learn to interpret them and put them into use.

Lesson 1: Seek will allow students to become more comfortable with asking questions about their faith. It is crucial that they understand that through asking, they obtain the knowledge and wisdom that will empower them to embrace and appreciate their faith

Lesson 2: Know illustrates the difference between knowledge and wisdom, and will help them to understand the importance of both, as they continue to uncover the idea of faith.

Lesson 3: Believe should inspire the students to be bold about their faith, as illustrated in Daniel 3. When knowledge and wisdom are willingly obtained from God, and we choose to use them to empower our faith, our belief in Him becomes reinforced through conviction.

Lesson 4: Integrate/Emulate ties the three key aspects (knowledge, wisdom, conviction) together, and boldly states the reason Christians choose to follow God: out of love. Students will learn to embrace the love that God has shown us first, and learn to show love to others in a kind and compassionate way.