

II. God's Blueprint in Biblical Perspective  
*Foundations from Genesis*  
"The Sanctity of Divine Revelation"  
Genesis 1  
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I am so grateful to be in this series with you. I certainly wish all could hear this not because of my work in it but mainly because of the subject matter itself and the absolute crucial nature of what we are looking at in God's Word. Genesis 1:1–2 says [1] *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.* [2] *The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.*

As I look around at the movement of progressive secularism in the culture and progressive Christianity inside the church, it seemed to me at that point we desperately need to understand and build upon the foundations that God has revealed in His Word. One of my favorite biographies was of Jack Nicklaus, the pro golfer and how he would take two months off at the end of every year for refreshment. Then as the new year, the new season began, he would go to his coach, Mr. Grout and would say "Teach me to play golf." That is astonishing to me for here is the greatest golfer, arguably that has ever lived, in his prime and every year he started with the basics – the essentials.

I remember reading while I was college Ben Hogan's book titled Five Lessons: The Modern Fundamentals of Golf. The fundamentals were so crucial and foundational. He basically said if you get these right it's amazing what will happen shot after shot after shot. I think the same thing is true in every area of life – great athletes, great business people, great Christians and great churches. It's not so much their novelty or ingenuity. It's the fact that they believe the essentials and the foundations that God has given and when the time of challenge and adversity comes, they are able to repeat them with intentionality and excellence and they continued to repeat them.

If you decided to be a Marine, they would take you to Paris Island and not only to teach you to dress like a soldier and clean your weapon but they would put you through weeks of adversity and teach you the essentials of what it means to be a combat Marine. This is so when the adversity of combat comes you automatically repeat out of learning and commitment and you repeat with excellence under pressure that which is crucial. There is no doubt, culturally there is pressure and even in the evangelical church which was formed out of commitment to the Scripture. There is no doubt there is a theological adulteration that is leading to theological apostasy in the evangelical church today, because there is a loss of what the mission, the message and ministry is for Christ's church.

So, it is my opinion as a pastor to invest in you so it was no accident that we went through the essential foundations of what the church has used to worship, disciple and defend the faith for over 2,000 years and that is the Apostles' Creed. I consider the Apostles' Creed to be on the level of 101 and I'd love to take you to level 301 which would be looking at an in-depth look at the Westminster larger and shorter catechisms that is a distillation of the sublime foundations of the Christian life that brings us together and sends us out for Christ knowing who we are and what we're supposed to do. Yet I have felt all along that there was something on that 201 level – something that moved from the essential foundations to the effectual foundations. I think the place to go thematically for it is what God gives us foundationally as He begins the

process of unfolding His revelation to us in the Word of God. That the book of Genesis is absolutely crucial for us to understand. I don't think there is any doubt in my mind as to why the books of Genesis and Revelation are under continual attack in the field of scholarship.

I unabashedly tell you I believe the Bible is the Word of God and that all of Scripture is inerrant in the context of what it says. I also believe it is arranged in a way that is crucial for us to understand what I call the effectual foundations, which help you make up your life view. In the last study I gave you a life view that is motivated by a life love that results in a lifestyle. Your lifestyle is going to be framed by who you learned from. When all is said and done the pupils become like their teachers. Your lifestyle is ultimately in the midst of adversity is going to reflect what you are learning. It's not accident that in the great parable of the Sower that speaks of sowing the Word of God upon the hearts of people that Jesus said if we don't get that parable right we can't get any of them right.

The parable of the Sower is found in three of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) and at the end of the parable in Mark, Jesus says in Mark 4:24, [24] *And He said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear: with the measure you use, it will be measured to you, and still more will be added to you."* After the parable in Luke, Jesus says in Luke 8:18, [18] *"Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away."* Jesus is telling them to pay close attention who they listen to and what they hear. We see also in the beatitude of the Old Testament from Psalm 1:1, [1] *Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers.* Who are your counselors? What is your lifestyle? Does it flee temptation? Do you resist the evil one? Who are your intimate mentors, friends and fellows in the Lord? These things will come out in your lifestyle and adversity will not dictate who you are but it will reveal who you are and that will reveal who and what you have listened to.

I believe the life love is what motivates us and we have two primary loves in our life. One is the love of the Lord that we have for Him and secondly is the love He first had for us. The love of Christ compels us and I believe that leads us to when we have the heart for Christ (life love), then we want the mind of Christ. When you become a Christian you get a new family, a new record, a new heart, a new perspective and a new home which are secured by Christ for you but you don't get a new mind. You do get a call to renew your mind by the power of the Spirit of God, using the Word of God in your life, so that you think the thoughts of God in the context of a world that is arrayed against God and because it can't get its hands on God it will get its hands on God's people. Are we ready to respond to this?

I will conclude this study with a statement. I believe the dissipation, despair, division, depression and all that is happening around us in the culture which is also happening in the evangelical church, actually is an unbelievably great opportunity for us. If the foundations are shaken what will the righteous do? I said in the last study that we don't put our confidence in the foundations. Psalm 11 says that in the Lord I take refuge. Though the arrow is in the bow fitted and the aim is against me, in the Lord I take refuge. With our confidence in the Lord, we can now embrace the foundations for life. There were 13 essential foundations from the Apostles' Creed and in these coming studies I am going to give you 15 essential foundations/sanctities from the book of Genesis. And if you get the first one wrong, you will get the rest of them wrong. These are things that God has set apart to be at the foundation of our lives. It is the sanctity of Divine revelation for the life of a believer as they establish the foundations of life with the Lord being our refuge.

With that before us, there are a couple of passages of Scripture that begin to stand out for me. When we come to the Lord's High Priestly prayer it's such a rich text where we see the heart of Christ and the hope that Christ has secured for us. There are seven intercessory requests that Jesus makes of the Father in this prayer from John 17. In the middle of it Jesus asks for us to be holy but in the midst of it Jesus says this for us from John 17:17, *[17] Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.* What is truth? Thy Word is truth. It doesn't contain truth, it is truth. It doesn't become truth, it is truth. It doesn't just simply support truth, it is the truth.

Then previously in that wonderful passage in John 14 where Jesus tells us He is going away to prepare a place for us Thomas says 'Lord, we don't know the way because we don't even know where You're going. How do we know the way?' Jesus responds with that all too familiar verse in John 14:6 which says *[6] Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

One of the great privileges I had while in Charlotte, North Carolina was due to the fact there were not a lot of reformed churches there I was called on a number of times for public debates. There was a man where the two of us got to be known as the opposing positions. He represented a secular world and life view and I represented a sacred world and life view. He was also one who had a radio program but I didn't, but he would invite me. His name was Jerry. He would present himself as a Jewish atheist and we actually became good friends. Jerry has since died and I tried to reach out to him in his last days because we had talked many times about the Gospel of Jesus Christ but there is one debate we had that I distinctly remember.

As we were debating on his radio show, he said to me 'I don't like the arrogance of your position.' I said 'Jerry do you think I'm arrogant?' He said 'no, I kind of like you but your position is arrogant. You think Jesus is the only way.' I said 'I do think that, I know that and believe that. In fact, I've given my life to that and that's why I'm here to talk to you, through you and anyone else who will listen. But Jerry, I didn't come up with that. I just became a Christian and I am reporting to you what Jesus said.' I quoted John 14:6 to him. When Jesus says I'm the way, it is a lifestyle. When He says I'm the truth, it is a Christ-saturated life view. When Jesus says I am life, He is my love and I love Him who first loved me. Then I told Jerry, 'Because He called me and I was where you were, I am glad to report that to you. I didn't come up with it, I'm just the amplifier, the speaker it is coming through.'

Jerry still thought that was arrogant so I said 'You don't think I'm arrogant but you think Jesus is arrogant, right?' So, this was an interesting broadcast we were having here. Then he asked me how I could believe that. I said 'When Jesus said in His Word that He is the way, the truth and the life, that has been revealed to us so we have three possibilities. Number one, Jesus was wrong, I'm wrong and you're right. The second possibility is Jesus is right, therefore I'm right because I'm reporting to you what He said and you're wrong. The third possibility is that we're both wrong but let me tell you what can't be true, we're not both right. The most important decision you will ever make is when Jesus says 'I'm the way, the truth and the life' is that the truth? This is through which everything else goes – the frame, the filter and the focus which is Jesus. That is really the decision before you and before me. According to Jesus, all of eternity and today, rests upon what you will do with that.' Jerry said 'What if I don't think it's the truth?' I said 'You will either be right or wrong and we both can't be right.'

So how is it that men and women pursue the truth? How do we truly know and how do we know what we know, is true? Humanity has three approaches to that and you are doing one of these three. Number one, you know what is true and know it's true by human reason alone. That where most of our culture is but there is another one that has now come to ascendancy in

our culture. So number two is by human reason, experience and investigation. I love it when someone says to me ‘Harry, science says...’ Then I always answer back to that as ‘Science says...at the moment.’ When I first went to school science told me that universe was finite. By the time I got to junior high it was infinite and by the time I got to college it was infinitely expanding. Now, at what point was science right? When you go to a Bible study and someone says ‘what does this text mean to you?’ they are in one of the two possibilities I have just mentioned. Bible study is not finding out what the text means to you but what God says in the text and then you respond to it with investigation and experience.

My favorite ‘fishing pool’ for sharing the Gospel is in an airplane with turbulence. As I share with the Gospel I might hearing something from them that says ‘my god says...’ and I will say ‘wait you have your own personal god? I have been sharing with you by my own personal reason, experience and investigation the God who has revealed Himself in His Word. Is that true, because God says His Word is true.’

The third possibility you know what is true and know it’s true by Divine revelation and Holy Spirit enabled, empowered illumination as the Divine revelation from God becomes your frame whereby everything you know fits in and if it doesn’t then it’s not true. It becomes your filter as it becomes the place you filter all the claims made to you as people observe the creation and experience. Then it gives you your focus – to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. There are many Christians I meet that build their Christian life on experiences instead of the Word of God whereby they interpret their experiences. When the Word is your frame, filter and focus you have something in place whereby you investigate all the claims that come to you and examine the experiences of life whereby you look at them. It is Divine revelation.

How does God communicate His Divine revelation to us? He communicates His Divine revelation two ways. One we call general revelation and the reason it’s general is because it is available to everyone. The second way is special revelation. Let’s first look more at general revelation before going to special revelation.

General revelation comes with three venues into our life. Number one is through creation. Psalm 19:1–2 says *[1] The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. [2] Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.* You see who God is through His handiwork. This is also seen in Romans 1.

Romans 1:18–23 says *[18] For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. [19] For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. [20] For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. [21] For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. [22] Claiming to be wise, they became fools, [23] and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.*

Notice they suppress the truth so it’s not in ignorance, it’s known to them. When I do covenant baptisms of a child, I know two things about that child. One, that child knows God. Externally in creation He has revealed Himself, internally in their heart He has established His presence in their very conscience. I did not say let you conscience be your guide, but the reality of conscience – something is right, something is wrong – we are accountable, justice – where did that come from? They are within us. God’s general revelation goes to all of humanity by the creation outside of us that speaks to us, by our conscience inside of us that bears witness

alternately accusing and excusing us (seen in Romans 2) and history which is God's providence. We used to have in schools entire departments on historical theology which I wish we still had. History is His story.

The second thing I know about the child, is that they are dead in their sins and will suppress that truth unless God's revealed truth in His Word by His Spirit sets them free. The Bible calls this, having eyes to see and ears to hear. This is God's general revelation given to us so now let's look at God's special revelation. Let's look at Hebrews 1 first and then we'll look at a few other passages as well.

Hebrews 1:1–4 says *[1] Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke (referring to special revelation) to our fathers by the prophets (the Old Testament), [2] but in these last days he has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. (General revelation comes from Christ and special revelation comes from God through Christ to us.) [3] He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, [4] having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs.* Now let's look at Hebrews 2.

Hebrews 2:1–4 says *[1] Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. [2] For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, [3] how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It (Christ and salvation) was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard (the Apostles, the New Testament), [4] while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to His will.*

He just told us that general revelation is available to all. Special revelation God has given whereby He reaches the hearts of those who are His people, who believe, repent and come to Him. Just like general revelation comes with creation, conscience and history, special revelation comes through Christ and His Incarnation – He presents to you the glory of the Father, veiled in flesh the Godhead sees. He has revealed God to us in the flesh. Then through the Apostles He has completed the Scriptures so that He speaks through His Word. The Prophets give us the Old Testament as God spoke through them and the Apostles give us the New Testament as God gave them the credentials of signs, wonders and miracles, though we know they were agents of revelation.

So, the Bible says we are built on the foundation of the Apostles and the Prophets. The Old Testament is Christ revealed but concealed. The New Testament is Christ revealed. Augustine put it this way – the Old Testament is the New Testament concealed and the New Testament is the Old Testament revealed. This is God's special revelation.

General revelation and special revelation both come from God so they bear the attributes of God. Is God's Word inerrant? Yes. Is general revelation inerrant? Yes. Now, those who interpret general revelation like scientists, psychologist, sociologists, etc. may get it wrong but there is nothing wrong in God's general revelation. It is infallible, inerrant and so is God's special revelation. By the way, interpreters of God's special revelation like preachers or Bible study leaders sometimes get that wrong. That's why we don't rely on the instruments that teach us but rely on the Scriptures that interpret themselves, because it's God's Word. God reveals Himself in general and special revelation but special revelation is the preeminent over general revelation. Why? It is because of its detailed content and its sufficiency.

So, is special revelation sufficient? Yes. Is general revelation sufficient? No. It can give us the knowledge of God and it shows our rebellion but it is not sufficient to save us. If general revelation was sufficient and everyone who has it is innocent, the last thing a church needs to have this year is a mission's conference. When we say in special revelation that they reject Him they are under His judgment. If they are okay from general revelation then why send the Word? General revelation is not sufficient to save and that's why Christ comes in Incarnation and that's why the Scriptures are given by inspiration.

We know when Jesus comes He is one hundred percent God and one hundred percent Man and that's Incarnation. The Scriptures bear the same profile. The Scriptures are one hundred percent God and one hundred percent Man. But God's authorship through Man is what secures its infallibility and inerrancy. That's why the Bible tells us in II Timothy 3:16–17, *[16] All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, [17] that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.* It is sufficient through Divine inspiration.

Over 1600 years the Divine Author through His Spirit gives us His Word through human authors using their full humanity so that we have in inerrant, infallible, sufficient Word, which is why the Prophets didn't say 'thus saith Isaiah.' The Prophets said 'Thus saith the Lord...' which is why Paul would say in I Thessalonians 2:13, *[13] And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.* The Scriptures of the New Testament like that of the Old Testament have been given by God through man's humanity and if you don't believe it go take a look at Peter's Greek and Paul's Greek for they are two different Greeks. One was formally trained (Paul) and the other was trained out of a fishing boat (Peter). God did all of that sovereignly to get the message He wanted to get through Peter and the message He wanted to get through Paul and the other writers of the New Testament. This is God's Word and God can't err. Romans 3:4 says *[4] By no means! Let God be true though every one were a liar, as it is written, "That you may be justified in your words, and prevail when you are judged."* Thus, we have a Word but unlike general revelation it is sufficient to save you, show you a Savior and how to live for Him.

In creation, I know there is God. You have to sophisticate yourself into imbecility to become an atheist. Psalm 14:1a says *[1a] The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."* I would never know from general revelation that He dwells as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I would never know that He redemptively, savingly loves me. I would never know the majesty of His patience and mercy but the Scriptures reveal the fullness of God in Christ who tells us the glory of the Father and sends us the Holy Spirit who works in, through and upon us. Let's look now at II Peter.

II Peter 1:16–21 says *[16] For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. [17] For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," [18] we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with Him on the holy mountain. [19] And we have the prophetic word (Old Testament) more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns (this is when the Savior returns) and the morning star rises in your hearts, [20] knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. [21] For no prophecy*

(the Word of the Lord through a human author) *was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were **carried along** by the Holy Spirit.*

God's Divine revelation is like a lamp shining in the darkness of a fallen world. That phrase 'carried along' is tough to translate but basically it's a noun *ferry boat* turned into a verb as men were 'ferried' along by the Holy Spirit and God spoke to us through them.

What are the attributes of Divine revelation? We focus on the priority of special revelation in order to understand general revelation. One, what we know about Divine revelation is the doctrine of infallibility. God's Word is reliable. It cannot be broken. It's like the hammer that breaks the rock as well as the balm of Gilead to soothe the soul. Because it comes from God it has power. Hebrews 4:12–13 says [12] *For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.* [13] *And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.* It is gloriously God's Word.

Why do we have general and special revelation? It is because of God. What is an attribute of God? God is light. What does light do? It reveals and dispels darkness, because God is gracious, almighty, now God has found a way for us to be able to receive His attribute of light. He has revealed Himself generally and specially. Because His special revelation has been given to us it is infallible and reliable.

Secondly, is the doctrine of inerrancy. Because God is the Author through the human authors – let every man be a liar but God speaks the truth – then God ferried these men along. He breathed His Word through them. So, we have a trustworthy Word because it's inerrant. How far does inerrancy go? Jesus says in Matthew 5:18, [18] *For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, **not an iota, not a dot**, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.* It goes to every jot and tittle. In terms of God's revealed Word, we believe in inerrancy, verbal plenary – meaning every word and even the order of the word. God reveals Himself to you, not in the words, but the way He structures them. The Ten Commandments are in the order they are in for a reason. The Old Testament is where it is and the New Testament is where it is for a reason.

I love something my son passed on to me. When we distill repeated patterns from the Bible we are seeking to pay attention to them, not only to what the Bible says in every word in the passage, but how it presents itself in every passage from Genesis to Revelation. Put another way, we read the Bible and we see not only the words down to the jot (smallest letter) and tittle (smallest punctuation), we see the set of patterns, the dispositions through which we can think about everything that comes to us in life. The Bible offers the vision of Biblical doctrine and not only a series of propositional truths. It is a framework for understanding any and all facts from His Word and from general revelation as we approach the Bible, not as a story within reality, but God's story of reality, as the reality itself within, it becomes and makes all other stories necessary in how they are to be understood and in their very existence.

Thirdly, is the doctrine of perspicuity. That means the Bible is clear – you can see with clarity. It has its truths present with clarity, consistency, integrity and without contradiction as the words of the pattern come to us.

This leads us to the doctrine of sufficiency. I love the way C. S. Lewis describes this; I see the light of God's revelation and it's like a ray from the sun. He uses this illustration from a time when he was out taking a walk and saw the ray of the sun coming through the trees. The ray of the sun pointed him back to the Son – God reveals Himself, but the ray of the Son

enlightened everything else that it could be clear and understood. Doesn't Peter say that Paul writes of things where some things are hard to understand? Absolutely, not everything in the Bible is equally clear. That is where you have to learn to do something. In Roman Catholicism they when you get to those things that are tough to understand, ask me. The Reformers said when you get to those things that are tough to understand, praise God for teachers and commentaries but ask the Scriptures. It's call analogia de fida – by faith because we believe the Bible is infallible, inerrant, perspicuity and sufficient, when you get to tough passages the Bible cannot contradict itself so the best way to understand the tough passage is to go to the clear passage. So, it's not the church that is the interpreter through its counsels. We are grateful for interpreters, teachers, counsels, creeds, confessions, but the final authority of Scripture is the Scripture that interprets itself. That is by faith we believe the integrity and consistency of the Bible.

Number five is the doctrine of availability and accessibility. The Word of God and the Spirit of God have been given to us. We have Divine revelation and the work of the Holy Spirit among us through the gifts of the Spirit, preachers, teachers, the Bible and the Spirit at work in your heart so that you can understand it. Therefore, you must give yourself to the means of grace. The private means of grace are your closet of prayer, your personal Bible study for the Bible is not a magic book whereby you buy one, put it on your coffee table and the vibrations will seep into your life. II Timothy 2:15 says *[15] Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth* (KJV). Then there are the public means of grace – pastoral preaching, worship, fellowship. In the Lord's Day service God's Word is read, sung, confessed, preached and prayed. That's how you know the God of the Word.

I will use the illustration of the Bereans from Acts 17:11 which says *[11] Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness* (public means of grace), *examining the Scriptures daily* (private means of grace) *to see if these things were so*. Praise God for the Bereans preacher! But their preacher isn't the final word. The final word on the Scriptures is the Scriptures – examine the Scripture to see if these things are so.

Here is your life takeaway. God's Word rules, not the culture. Sola Scriptura – the Scripture alone is our only trustworthy and faithful rule of faith and practice. The Bible gives to you your framework. Perhaps someone gives you a book on critical race theory or sexual ethics or anthropology for I get them all the time, but when I read them there is a framework that they have to fit in and it's the Scripture. I have a filter which is the Scripture where I filter everything through it. I have a focus which is the glory of God and enjoying Him forever through the preeminence of Christ as Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer as He reveals Himself in His Word. That is Biblical magisterium – Sola Scriptura. Hear the Word with eagerness and examine the Scriptures to see if these things are so.

I'll finish where I started. Are you living in a culture of division and are you apart of that or apart of the Kingdom, speaking to that? Are you getting your life view from the left and the right or from the Scripture? If we get our life view from the Scripture and the life love of Christ compels us, then we'll have a life style that glorifies God and with as much as my heart breaks for the dissipation, division, despair and discouragement I see around me today, I also see an opportunity. What if they saw us not in despair or divided by the sociological and political movements of the day but in the hope of Christ, revealed in His Word, unified in Christ, patiently loving one another, not counting wrongs against each other where love covers a multitude of sins? What if they saw not depression but exhilaration of the joy of the Lord in everything?



What if they saw people who knew how to love one another – male and female – how to embrace a Biblical sexual ethic, how to love life in a culture of death? What if they saw families that are built on the Rock?

Do you see this moment, as much as it pains me, as a great opportunity to share the love of Christ and His Gospel? You have to start with the Word of God, by the power of the Spirit of God bathed in prayer. In many churches on a table in front of the pulpit you used to see a plate, a cup and the open Bible, for through the sacraments defined by the Word of God and the intercessory prayers of God's people Christ speaks, we hear Him and we follow Him. Let's pray.

Prayer:

Father, thank You for the book of Genesis that gives us the glorious information we need – where we came from, where sin came from, what is a man, what is a woman, what is marriage and all of that. But it speaks authoritatively for it's the first book of the glorious Book of Divine revelation – the Word of God. We can know the Word of God and not know the God of the Word but we cannot know and make known the God of the Word without the Word of God. Spirit of God please have that Word preached and taught in every community, every small group and every sermon in this congregation – faithful Biblical songs, prayers, confessions, preaching and loving the Word together and eagerly receiving it while privately examining the Scriptures daily. I pray this in Jesus' Name, Amen.

### Power Point

The Sanctity of Divine Revelation

How do we truly know and how do we know what we know is True?

1. By Human Reason alone.
2. By Human reason, experience and investigation.
3. By Divine Revelation and Illumination as the Frame, Filter and Focus of experience and investigation.

How Is Divine Revelation Communicated?

General Revelation — Special Revelation

The Sanctity of Divine Revelation

- I. The Doctrine of Infallibility
- II. The Doctrine of Inerrancy
- III. The Doctrine of Sufficiency
- IV. The Doctrine of Perspicuity
- V. The Doctrine of Availability & Accessibility

Life Takeaway

*Biblical Magisterium – Sola Scriptura*

*The Scripture Alone is our Only Authoritative and Trustworthy Rule of Faith and Practice.*

*Frame – Filter – Focus*

*LifeView – LifeLove – LifeStyle*