

## TO HELP YOU NAIL DOWN TRUTHS IN THE BIBLE

One of our goals here at Bethlehem is for you to spend time with God daily - this HammerTime Card can help. It is designed to help you spend 15 minutes (or more) with God, 4 days a week. Here is an example of how to use this card. Study notebooks are available in the Bethlehem lobby.

### Read the verses (4 min)

- Read through one time, then re-read and underline any key points.

### Read the card/think about it/write in your notebook (6 min)

- Write down some of the main ideas from the passage.
- Write down a “key for me” that is your main point that day.

### Pray (5 min)

- Write down some of the things you are praying about that day.

**Introduction** to “The Transformed Life”, a study about the apostle Paul.

We are glad you are joining us for this new study about the life of Paul - probably the most transformed life in the Bible. You have **several options of tools to use during this study** (approximately 12 weeks):

- ◆ **HammerTime cards** - available every Sunday at church or online at [www.BethlehemToolbox.com](http://www.BethlehemToolbox.com).
- ◆ **Study notebooks** - available at ‘Above the Grind’ Bookstore or the Information Center, \$5.00.
- ◆ **“Paul: Living for the Call of Christ”**, by Gene Getz. Available at ‘Above the Grind’ Bookstore or you can purchase on your own at Lifeway/Amazon/etc.
- ◆ **BethlehemToolbox.com** - download HammerTime cards or read the blog.
- ◆ For men, we offer several **small groups** that are studying the life of Paul in their groups over the next 3 months. Stop by the Information Center in the Worship Center lobby or go to the website for more information. Contact Matt Vanderbilt, Pastor of Connections at [mvanderbilt@bethlehembc.com](mailto:mvanderbilt@bethlehembc.com) or 704.823.5050 x104 with additional questions.

Day 1: The Transformed Life

**Read:** Romans 12:1-2

**Think about:** This world you live in is constantly influencing you - but God wants to be the main influencer in your life. He wants to transform you - He wants you to live according to the pattern that He laid out in the bible. Think through the steps He laid out in these verses: View or recognize God’s mercy, Live daily as a sacrifice to Him, Live your life to honor Him. What is the difference between being conformed to the world or transformed by the influence of God? In what ways does your mind need to be renewed?

Think about the end result - you will be able to know God’s will (His plan for this life, His plans for your life). He doesn’t want to hide this from you, He really does want you to have a close relationship with Him.

**Act:** In your notebook, list some main points from this passage & write down the “key for me” - this is your main application from today.

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Day 2: The Roman Road

**Read:** See verses below

**Think about:** In the weeks to come, you will read about how passionate Paul was to lead people to Jesus Christ. In fact, his letter to the Christians in the church at Rome include some verses that have been grouped together over the years and are known as the “Roman Road.” Read through each of these verses and write in your notebook what they mean to you.

Romans 3:23 & Romans 6:23 & Romans 5:8 & Romans 10:13  
and wrapped up with Revelation 3:20

**Act:** Think about how those 5 passages connect and can lead someone to salvation through Jesus Christ. In your Bible, write some notes that will help link those passages so you can access them when sharing Christ with someone. Be sure to write your “key for me” today - every day you read.

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Day 3: Training Rather than Trying

**Read:** 1 Timothy 4:8

**Think about:** What if you had a goal to run a marathon (26.2 miles)? Could you just try really hard...or would you need to train? To cause that much physical change in your body you would have to commit to a regimen of training. The Bible teaches that it is the same way with your spiritual growth. You can't just try harder and become more like Jesus. Whether changing your life's direction, healing your marriage, improving your parenting skills, fixing your finances, etc., today's verse (spiritual training) can give you hope for a changed future. Paul recognizes that physical improvement is important, but it is the spiritual training that will have the most long-term impact.

**Act:** Think about this habit of spending time with God. What are some things you can do to give yourself the best chance of truly adopting this new habit? Get a notebook? Get a new Bible? Go to bed on time, set your materials out before you go to bed? Tell a friend so they can help you stay on track?

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Day 4: Finishing the Race...and Winning

**Read:** 2 Timothy 4:7-8

**Think about:** Before we start this journey with Paul next week, we want to visualize where we are going. Your target is to finish this race of life strong - of standing before Jesus and being pleased with the race that you ran. Think about those phrases in verse 7 - about fighting, about finishing, about keeping. These do not happen easily and they don't happen without intentionality. In your notebook write down how you feel about the challenge before you - and be encouraged to know that there is a great prize at the end waiting for you. Again, build the habit of writing down main points that stand out to you and then the “key for me” to give you a specific application from today.

**Act:** Live every day with the focus on the finish line. There is much riding on this race—for you and for people in your life that rely on you. Paul wrote these verses at the end of his life & it gives you a chance to think about how you want to feel when you get to the end of your life...completely transformed.

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