

## 201 | The Blueprint for Pursuit

Pursuing God doesn't involve mastering a complicated system of religion; it's about developing a relationship with God. But just like with any relationship, your connection with God can grow and flourish over time or it can stagnate and even decline. In this workshop you'll learn three key areas which are vital for pursuing God: biblical truth, intentional relationships and outward purpose. These three areas – with ten memorable axioms along the way – will give you a framework that will help your relationship with God to grow throughout your life. Learn more about completing 201 at [rednotes.org/201](http://rednotes.org/201).

### WEEK 1 | Pursuing Biblical Truth

▶▶ Video 1: *A New Way to Live*

**Axiom #1: Find out what pleases God and \_\_\_\_\_.**

#### Questions for Discussion

How have you seen your “new direction” at work? Give specific examples.

▶▶ Video 2: *Finding Truth*

**Axiom #2: The \_\_\_\_\_ is our guide.**

#### Questions for Discussion

1. Where do people go to find spiritual truth? What makes the Bible the best place to go for truth?
2. How does the Bible help you “build up”? How does it help you “build out”?

▶▶ Week 1 Bonus Video: *Baptism*

#### Questions for Discussion

Have you been baptized? If so, did you understand what it meant?

If you haven't been baptized as a Christian, schedule a date as soon as possible. Invite others to attend. **Baptism Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## WEEK 2 | Pursuing Biblical Truth (*continued*)

» Video 3: *Theology Matters*

**Axiom #3:** \_\_\_\_\_ on the majors.

### Questions for Discussion

1. Why do we tend to create God in our image? What are the consequences?
2. How should we approach people who differ with us on the minor issues?

» Week 2 Bonus Video: *An Overview of the Majors*

### Statement of Faith

**The Bible** | We believe the Bible, composed of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is inspired, authoritative, and infallible in its original manuscripts. It is, therefore, the only complete and final authority in faith and life. 2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Pet 1:19-2; Jn 17:17; Rom 3:4; Jn 20:30-31; Matt 24:35

**God** | We believe in a sovereign, triune God. By His power He spoke the world into existence. God alone is self-determined, self-governed, and self-sufficient. He is eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Each possesses all the attributes of deity. All are equal in power and glory. Rom 1:18-20; Jn 1:18; 1 Cor 2:16; Deut 6:4; Matt. 3:16-17, 28:19; Isa 46:10

**Jesus Christ** | We believe Jesus Christ was, is, and always will be the Son of God. He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed many signs and wonders, died on a cross, and rose from the dead in a glorified body. He ascended to the right hand of God the Father where He continually makes intercession for His people. At the appointed time He will come again to earth to consummate God's plan in salvation history. Matt 1:20-23; Jn 1:1,2; Rom 3:24, 25; Rom 8:34; Phil 2:5-10; 2 Cor 5:21; Heb 1:1-3; Heb 7:25

**The Holy Spirit** | We believe in the Holy Spirit's effective role in God's plan for His Kingdom. Without the influence of the Holy Spirit no one can participate in Kingdom Life. The Spirit's first (and necessary) work is in conversion: to enlighten sinners and awaken them to their need for a Savior. At the point of salvation the Holy Spirit immediately indwells believers and begins empowering them to live to please God. The Spirit also gives them a new identity, assuring them of their proper standing with God. Jn 14:16,17,26; 16:7-15; Rom 8:9; 1 Cor 3:16; 6:19; Gal 5:22-26; Eph 1:13-14

**Humanity** | We believe God created mankind in His own image. At the beginning of human history, however, man chose to disobey the sovereign God and so brought sin onto the earth. All people everywhere have since been born into this sinful nature and are subject to God's righteous judgment: death and eternal separation from Himself. Gen 1:26; 3; Rom 3:23; 6:23; Jer 17:9; Jn 3:18; Eph 2:1-3

**Salvation** | We believe God's plan from the beginning of time was to be in relationship with all people. Since sin makes that relationship impossible for everyone, God established a way to credit righteousness. He accepts Jesus Christ's death on the cross as a payment for the sin of humanity. Those who repent of their sin and believe in God's work are forgiven and restored to relationship with God. This is salvation, and it is God's work from beginning to end, so that we are saved purely by grace. Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7; Jn 3:16-17; Rom 3:24-26; 2 Cor 5:17; Rom 8:1; 1 Jn 5:11-13; Jn 1:12

**The Church** | We believe in one true universal church, comprised of all who genuinely acknowledge the message of the gospel of God's grace through Jesus Christ. This church, we believe, has many valid local expressions and denominations. God through the Holy Spirit equips every believer with spiritual gifts for the edification of the body of Christ. Mature believers recognize this and participate in God's work alongside other followers of Christ. 1 Cor 12:12; Eph 1:22-23; 2:19-22; Phil 1:1; Acts 2:42; 1:8; Matt 28:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-26

**Sacraments** | We believe that Scripture affirms two ordinances in the church: water baptism and communion. Believers should participate in both sacraments. Matt 28:19; Acts 8:35-39; Rom 6:1-5; Luke 22:19-20; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor 11:23-26

**Eternal Destiny** | We believe every person's eternal destiny is sealed at the moment of death. God knows those who are His own. Those who have accepted His free grace through Jesus Christ will live forever to glorify Him. Unbelievers will be judged with righteousness and separated forever from His presence. 2 Cor 5:6-10; Luke 23:40-43; Phil 1:23; Jn 5:29; Matt 25:46; 1 Cor 15:51-55; Heb 9:27-28; Rev 22:3-5

### Questions for Discussion

1. Are you surprised by this list? Do you think it's too short? Too long?
2. Which doctrines are you most interested in exploring in the next step?
3. How does theology help you "build up"? How does it help you "build out"?

▶▶ Video 4: *God In Us*

**Axiom #4:** You can't know or grow without the \_\_\_\_\_.

## WEEK 3 | Pursuing Intentional Relationships

▶▶ Video 5: *Intentional with God*

**Axiom #5: Your first relationship is with \_\_\_\_\_.**

### Questions for Discussion

1. What goes into developing a deep relationship with someone? What does this look like in our relationship with God?
2. Why is prayer difficult? How can we grow in our prayer lives?
3. How does prayer help you “build up”? How does it help you “build out”?

### Notes

▶▶ Video 6: *Intentional with Others*

**Axiom #6: God doesn't want \_\_\_\_\_ .**

### Questions for Discussion

1. Have you ever known someone who was truly encouraging to you? What did they do and how did it help?
2. Have you ever had someone share the “last 10%” with you? Did it help?
3. How do relationships with others help you “build up” and “build out”?

### Notes

▶▶ Week 3 Bonus Video: *Connect with a Few*

## WEEK 4 | Pursuing Outward Purpose

▶▶ Video 7: *Foot Washing*

**Axiom #7: If you're following Jesus, you're following a \_\_\_\_\_.**

### Questions for Discussion

1. What was so shocking about Jesus washing the disciples' feet?
2. Why do you think so many Christians eventually become self-serving?
3. Why is a self-serving life so unfulfilling? What are some areas of your life that don't match up with the attitude of Jesus?

*Notes*

▶▶ Video 8: *The Team Approach*

**Axiom #8: Everyone has a place on the \_\_\_\_\_.**

### Questions for Discussion

1. How have you seen others use time and talents for the team at church?  
How did it make a difference in your life?
2. Describe how it feels when you are using your talents to serve others.
3. How does serving help you “build up”? How does it help you “build out”?

*Notes*

▶▶ Week 4 Bonus Video: *Spiritual Gifts*

## WEEK 5 | Pursuing Outward Purpose (*continued*)

»» Video 9: *The Grace of Giving*

**Axiom #9: It's God's money – we're just \_\_\_\_\_ it.**

### Questions for Discussion

1. How does our financial management reveal what is important to us?
2. Why do you think it's hard for some people to start giving?
3. Which of the three giving principles seems most difficult to follow?
4. How does giving help you “build up”? How does it help you “build out”?

### Notes

»» Video 10: *Building Out*

**Axiom #10: Every disciple makes \_\_\_\_\_.**

### Questions for Discussion

1. Why is real spiritual maturity marked by making disciples?
2. Do you believe that every Christian has the ability to make a disciple?
3. Why don't more Christians focus on making disciples?
4. Disciple-making is “building out”. How does it help you “build up”?

»» Week 5 Bonus Video: *A Simple Plan*

*Now that you've completed 201, it's time for 301 – your final step in laying a foundation for your pursuit of God. If you're ready, turn the page.*