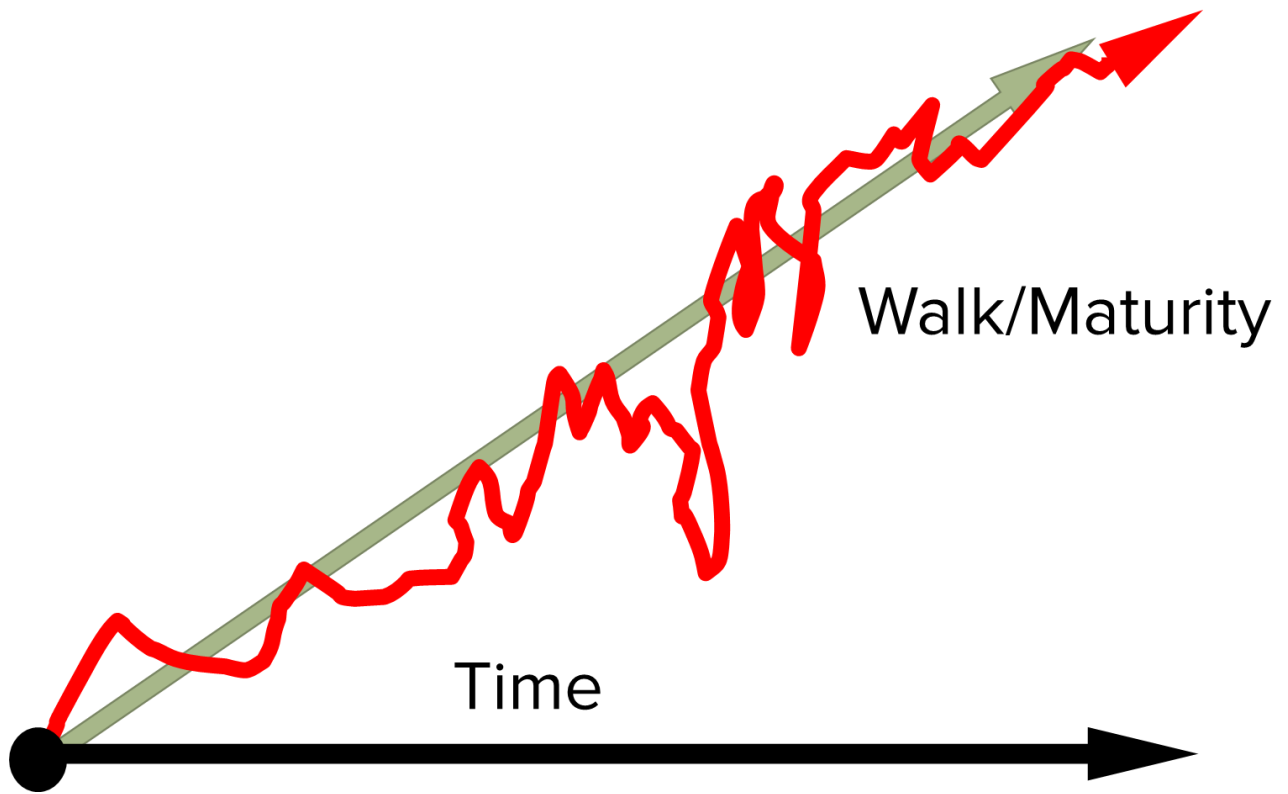
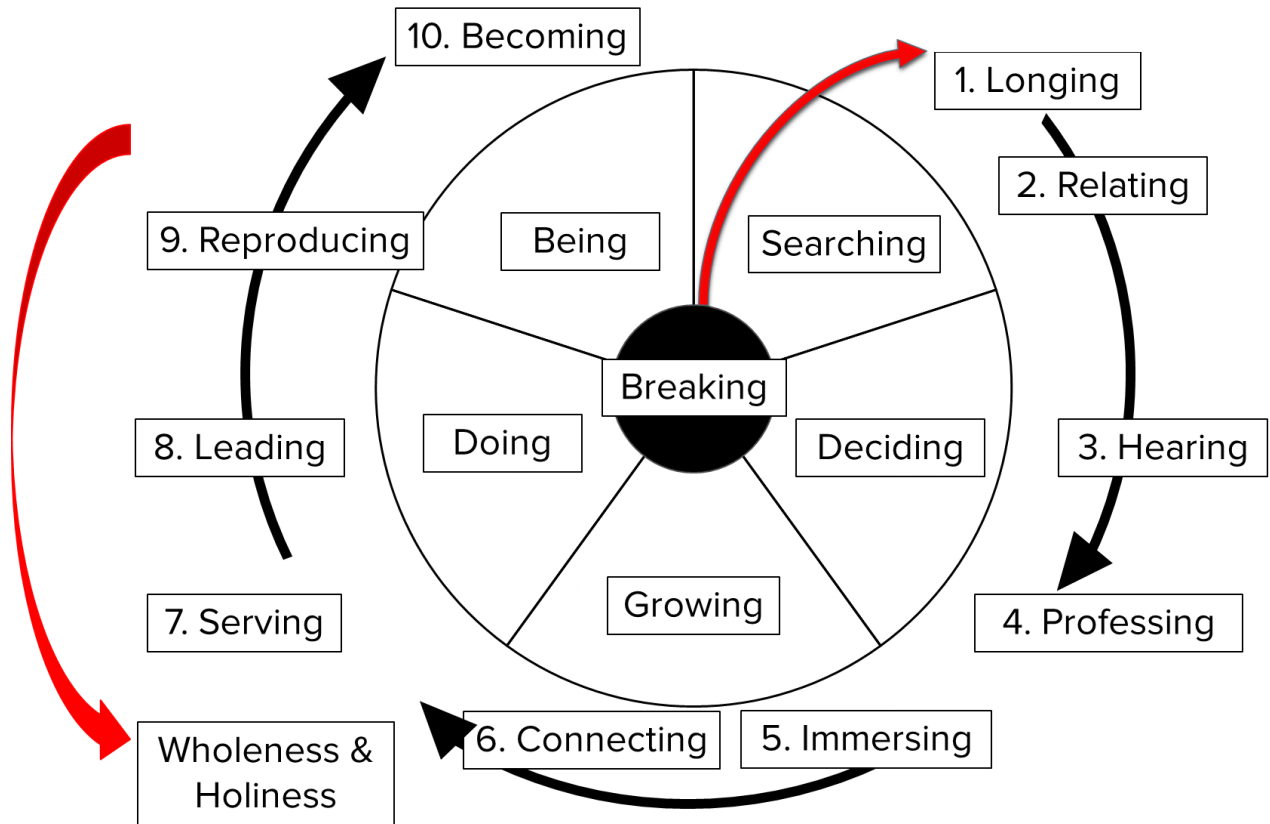


# Week Two

I BELONG... TO A  
RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD





**Group Discussion**

Where are you at in this process?

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Have you experienced a time of trial/breaking that challenged you and made you renew/grow in your faith?

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How has God used that in your life? In others' lives?

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## RELATING TO GOD . . . THROUGH HIS WORD

If we belong to God, then God wants us to be in CONSTANT RELATIONSHIP with him. That is why He sent his Son. So how do we grow in RELATIONSHIP with God? What tools do you need?

**1. THE BIBLE** is made of 66 books. Written by 40 different men, from all walks of life, over the span of 1,500 years.

We believe the Bible, while written by men, was INSPIRED by God. While God used 40 authors—there is one ultimate author, GOD.

2 Tim 3:16—*All Scripture is God BREATHED [or inspired by God] and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.*

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### Is the Bible reliable?

There is no book or writing that has more evidence to support its accuracy through the centuries. We have more than 5,000 ancient manuscripts of the entire New Testament—and many thousand more fragments.

DEAD SEA SCROLLS: These were 1,000 years older than any manuscript that had previously been known.

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### Which Bible translation is right/best?

There is no “right” translation. Translating from one language to another is as much an art as it is a science. And each translation has certain qualities to it that might benefit you based on what your goals are.

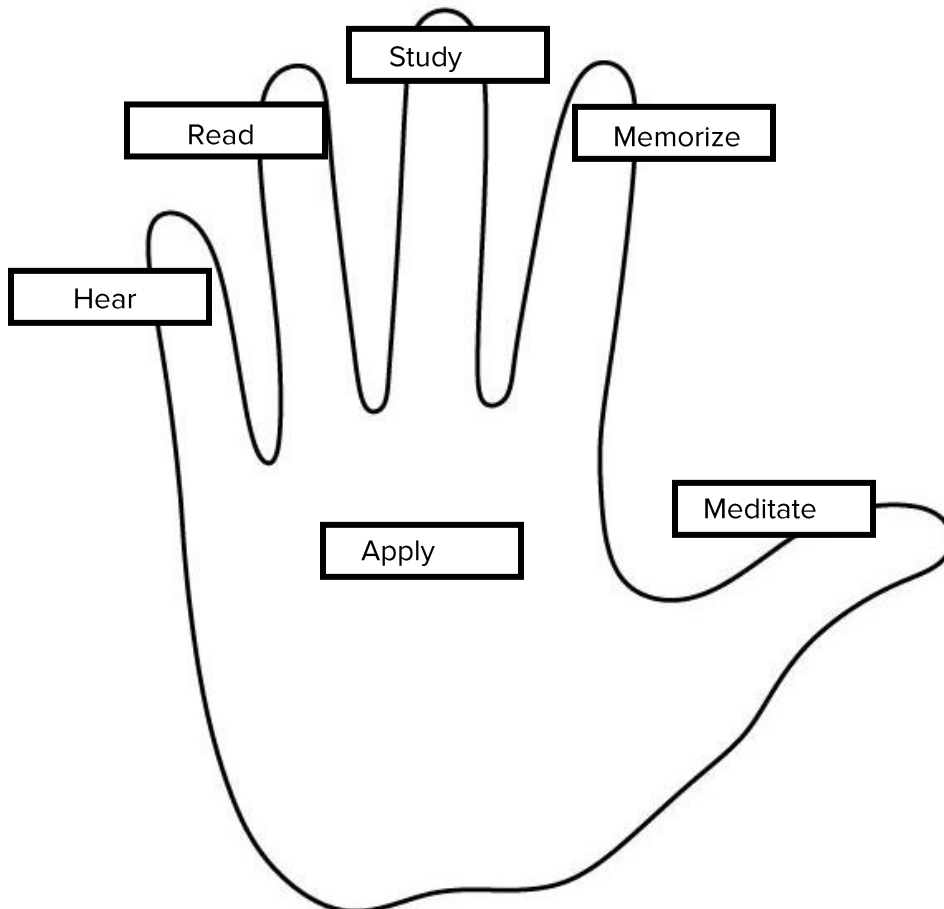
Morning Star generally uses the ESV—English Standard Version. It is a newer, very reliable translation written at a semi-scholarly level.

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**Foundational Truth** These Scriptures are the verbally inspired WORD OF GOD, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ULTIMATE AUTHORITY over every realm of human knowledge and endeavor. Therefore the Bible is to be BELIEVED in all that it affirms, OBEYED in all that it requires, and TRUSTED in all that it promises.

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**How do I effectively engage the Bible?**



**2. REPENTANCE/OBEDIENCE:** Turning from sin and the things that are against God.

James 1:22—*But be DOERS of the Word, and not HEARERS only, deceiving yourselves.*

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**3. BAPTISM:**

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**4. PRAYER:**

Matthew 6:9-13 – *PRAY then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”*

**Prayer IS about:** Praise, petition, and confession.

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**Prayer IS NOT about:**

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**Corporate Prayer Exercise**—as a table, take some time to share some prayer needs and as a table pray together.

**Take Home Assignment:**

1. Download the Bible App (You Version) and sign up for a Bible reading plan.
2. Download the Morning Star App and Like the Morning Star Facebook page.