
BIBLE BASICS

NOW IT MAKES SENSE



STUDY GUIDE

Taylor Chapman

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Bible Basics

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Bible Basics: Study Guide

BIBLE BASICS | NOW IT MAKES SENSE | 10 WEEKS OF STUDY | PLUS APPENDIX SECTION

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BIBLE BASICS | NOW IT MAKES SENSE | 10 WEEKS OF STUDY | PLUS APPENDIX SECTION

INTRODUCTION

This *Bible Basics Study Guide* was created for one purpose: to help you fully comprehend that the Bible is the infallible word of God – God-breathed, authoritative, and foundational for the existence of mankind.

Each week we are going to dive into a chapter together.

- We are going to READ the chapter and then answer some thought-provoking questions,
- Go over a Bible verse and your task is to MEMORIZE it, and
- Then, work on the assignments under the LIFE APPLICATION section.

With intentionality, set up your schedule and make the commitment to stick to it so you can understand what it is to know and experience the basics of God’s Word, the Bible.

Each study, we will also set aside some time to pray, study, and dive into the Word of God.

After ten weeks, I promise, **IF** you adhere to this study guide and **IF** you totally surrender your life to Christ, the next ten weeks of your life will be a tipping point where one day you will look back and say, **“It all changed for the better in my life when I went through the *Bible Basics Study Guide.*”**



Bible Basics: Study Guide



WEEK ONE | HOW DID IT GET HERE?



READ | CHAPTER 1

And then answer the following questions.

1. What is the Bible and why should I study it?

The word Bible means _____.

The Bible is the _____ of our _____.

By reading the Bible, we learn that _____ has a plan for our lives.

2. Some basic facts about the Bible:

The Bible was written by about _____ people from all walks of life.

The Bible was written in _____ different languages

The Bible was written over _____ years.

The Bible is inspired by _____ and _____ alone.

3. The New Testament contains 27 books; some of these books are really letters. What is the purpose of these letters that were written and that make up the New Testament?

4. What is the purpose of the Four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)?

5. The New Testament confirms the reliability of the Old Testament. They complement each other. Jesus said: “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.” (Matthew 5:17) Why is this important?

If the New Testament is true, then Jesus is who He claimed to be – _____ in the _____, proven by his _____.

6. What are some tests applied to a volume/book before it can be recognized as Scripture?

Three Tests to Confirm Writings Were Authentic
(1)
(2)
(3)

7. Conclusions to Chapter 1.

God is a _____ God. (possessing supreme or ultimate power)

The manuscripts are in amazing _____.

The English Bible is trustworthy because God Himself is trustworthy.

THOUGHT...

“... encourage new believers to feed on God’s Word – it is nourishment for the soul.”

– *Billy Graham*



MEMORIZE | 2 TIMOTHY 3:16–17

Look it up, write it down, and then memorize the verses.



LIFE APPLICATION | LIVING THE LIFE

Chapter 1. Check the contents page of your Bible so you can fill in the blanks. Start memorizing.

Books in the Old Testament	Books in the New Testament
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.
6.	6.
7.	7.
8.	8.
9.	9.
10.	10.
11.	11.
12.	12.
13.	13.
14.	14.
15.	15.
16.	16.
17.	17.
18.	18.
19.	19.
20.	20.
21.	21.
22.	22.
23.	23.
24.	24.
25.	25.
26.	26.
27.	27.

Old Testament (continued)
28.
29.
30.
31.
32.
33.
34.
35.
36.
37.
38.
39.



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WEEK TWO | BIBLE BASICS



READ | CHAPTER 2

And then answer the following questions.

1. Chart some characteristics of the Old Testament and New Testament.

Characteristic	Old Testament	New Testament
Number of Books		
Number of Authors		
Main Original Language		
Oldest Book		
Longest Book		
Shortest Book		
God's Dealings with...		
Both: Holy, merciful, righteous God who condemns sin but desires to save the sinner.		

2. These are some additional distinctions between the Old (OT) and New Testament (NT).
 The OT shows _____ of God upon sin; the NT shows _____ of God toward sinner.
 This is contrast of LAW and LOVE.
 The OT predicts the _____ of the Messiah; the NT reveals Christ the _____.
 The OT shows man separated from God through _____; the NT shows man restored
 with God through _____.

3. List the five categories of the Old Testament, numbering from 1 to 5.

- ___ Major Prophets
- ___ Poetic and Wisdom Books
- ___ Pentateuch or Law
- ___ Minor Prophets
- ___ Historical Books

4. List the five categories of the New Testament, numbering from 1 to 5.

- ___ General Epistles ___ Revelations
- ___ Historical Narrative ___ Gospels
- ___ Pauline Epistles

5. How would you explain the “Silent Years” or the Intertestamental Period? Read the section describing this period and summarize some events in a general way.

THOUGHT...

“The Old Testament cannot give us a total revelation of God by itself. We need the New Testament to understand the full revelation.”

– Paul Silway



MEMORIZE | EPHESIANS 2:8–9

Look it up, write it down, and then memorize the verses.



Chapter 2. Can you fill in blanks without checking your Bible? Then, finish remaining blanks.

Books in the Old Testament	Books in the New Testament
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.
6.	6.
7.	7.
8.	8.
9.	9.
10.	10.
11.	11.
12.	12.
13.	13.
14.	14.
15.	15.
16.	16.
17.	17.
18.	18.
19.	19.
20.	20.
21.	21.
22.	22.
23.	23.
24.	24.
25.	25.
26.	26.
27.	27.

Old Testament (continued)
28.
29.
30.
31.
32.
33.
34.
35.
36.
37.
38.
39.

7. The Bible makes some very distinct claims.

It claims that _____ exists.

Jesus claimed to be _____ in the flesh.

Human beings can only be saved through Him.

The _____ and _____ are key points of Christian theology.

8. Identify some of the evidence that supports the Bible is true.

Physical Evidence	
Internal Consistency	

THOUGHT...

“What a precious treasure is the Word of God! It is like a deep mine filled with gold, silver, and precious gems, and we must take time to ‘dig’ for these treasures.”

– *Warren W. Wiersbe*



MEMORIZE | JOHN 14:6

Look it up, write it down, and then memorize the verse.



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WEEK FOUR | LET'S INVESTIGATE NOW



READ | CHAPTER 4

And then answer the following questions.

1. How can I get the most out of devotional time with God? List and explain three key ways.

1.	
2.	
3.	

2. What does each letter of SOAP mean and how can this acrostic help me in Bible study?

S =	
O =	
A =	
P =	

3. Explain how or why you should use the following helpful tools to study the Bible.

Grab A Notebook	
Pick A Topic	
Set Time & Place	
Add Materials or Commentaries	
Stick With It!	

THOUGHT...

“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.”

– Thomas Edison



MEMORIZE | JOHN 15:5

Look it up, write it down, and then memorize the verse.



Chapter 4. Answer the following questions.

1. Which do you believe is more important – prayer or the Bible? Why?

2. If someone is unsure, what would you recommend as a place to start Bible reading? Why?

3. How would you explain meditating? What does “claiming verses for your life” mean?

4. Record a few thoughts about how it worked to use S-O-A-P this week.



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WEEK FIVE | LIFE TRANSFORMATION



READ | CHAPTER 5

And then answer the following questions.

1. “The goal is for the Bible to transform everything about you.” Look up the definition of spiritual transformation and write its meaning on the lines below.

2. List three practical things (or steps) we can do to start the transformation process. (The words are italicized in this chapter.)

1.	
2.	
3.	

3. Write the biblical definition of faith as found in Hebrews 11:1. (Faith in action. Faith is the basic ingredient to begin a relationship with God.)

4. Faith activates the Word of God, and revelation activates faith.
Revelation is when something on the _____ of you shifts. Something has changed.
When asking the Lord to reveal more, He can provide an _____ or a sense of _____.

5. Meditation is the third practical step toward Biblical transformation. Write Joshua 1:7–8.

6. Summarize the three steps.

Faith activates the _____.

_____ activates faith.

_____ activates revelation.

7. Look at the Appendix in the book to find the “Bible Meditation” section.

Remember, _____ helps the Bible come alive!

THOUGHT...

“Each tiny effort builds on the next, so that brick by brick, magnificent things can be created.”

– Robin Sharma



MEMORIZE | ROMANS 12:2

Look it up, write it down, and then memorize the verse.



Chapter 5. Write the following verses and read them daily – practicing repetition.

1. Romans 10:17

2. Hebrews 4:2

3. James 1:19–20

4. Joshua 1:7–8

5. John 6:63

Now, choose five verses you would like to read daily to practice repetition. Write the reference and then fill in the words on the lines provided.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____



Bible Basics: Study Guide



WEEK SIX | PEOPLE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT



READ | CHAPTER 6

And then answer the following questions.

1. God gave Adam one restriction. Read Genesis 2:16–17 and fill in the blanks.

And the LORD God commanded the man (Adam), saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of _____ and _____ you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely _____.”

2. The story of Adam and Eve continues with them eating from this tree, thus disobeying God. What was the next concern? Genesis 3:22–24.

That Adam and Eve might eat from the _____ of _____ and then _____ forever. God drove them out from the garden of Eden.

3. Why was Noah chosen to build the ark and survive the flood?

4. Why was this directive to build an ark so strange?

5. Abraham is called the father of our faith. Name some significant people in his life.

Abraham’s wife was named _____. Abraham’s son who he was willing to sacrifice was named _____. Abraham’s grandson who had 12 sons was named _____.

The world’s three major religions trace their roots to Abraham. Can you name them?

(1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____

6. Moses is another key figure in the Old Testament. Complete these sentences about Moses.
Moses was raised in Egypt by the Pharaoh's _____ and learned to govern in the court of Pharaoh.

Moses, as a grown man, saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew and killed the Egyptian – and then fled for his safety. He spent the next 40 years as a herdsman.

God appeared to Moses in a _____ and told him to return to Egypt, for Moses was to free God's people and lead them to the Promised Land.

At Mt. Sinai, God appeared to Moses and gave him the _____.

Moses died at the age of _____ years.

7. David was Israel's second and greatest King.

David is well known for killing the giant _____ with only a sling and a _____,

David is famous for sleeping with someone's wife and then having her _____ killed.

David is credited with writing many _____ as recorded in Psalms.

By the end of his life, David was known as a man truly after God's own _____.

8. Elijah is one of Israel's greatest prophets. Describe the contest with the prophets of Baal.

9. God used Esther in an incredible way in Jewish history.

King Xerxes of Persia chose Esther to be his new Queen. (She kept her nationality a secret.)

Esther's cousin, Mordecai, was a _____ during that time, and heard about an assassination plot against the king. Esther told the king, giving Mordecai credit.

Haman, appointed second-in-command, wanted reverence from others. When Mordecai refused to bow to him, Haman become obsessed with killing Mordecai and all _____.

King Xerxes was persuaded by Haman to kill all _____ on a certain date.

Queen Esther intervened through banquets, where one honored _____, and the other condemned _____ to death, who she named as wanting to kill her and her people.

10. One more key person in Old Testament history is Isaiah.

Isaiah is known as one of the most influential _____ in the Hebrew Bible.

He is also known as a _____.

The musician George Frederic Handel used Isaiah's words in his famous musical composition titled "Handel's _____."

THOUGHT...

“I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.”

– Nelson Mandela



MEMORIZE | PROVERBS 3:5–6

Look it up, write it down, and then memorize the verse.



Chapter 6. Write a significant fact about these people. Then add two more OT names and facts.

1. Adam and Eve

2. Noah

3. Abraham

4. Moses

5. David

6. Elijah

7. Esther

8. Isaiah

9. Your choice: _____

10. Your choice: _____



Bible Basics: Study Guide



WEEK SEVEN | STORIES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT



READ | CHAPTER 7

And then answer the following questions.

1. **Creation.** Write a short summary of what happened on each day.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	

2. **Satan.** Complete the following sentences describing Satan.

Satan is a fallen angel because he desired to be God instead of a _____ of God.

Proverbs 8:13, NIV: “To fear the LORD is to hate _____; I hate _____ and arrogance, _____ behavior, and perverse speech.”

Satan is not equal to God; God is everywhere or _____. Satan is not.

Satan wants to influence your thoughts, but God is stronger. Take a few minutes to read Ephesians 6:10–18 to remind yourself of the armor of God.

3. **Noah’s Ark.** Have you ever experienced a time when God asked you to step out in faith and you felt it was a bit crazy? If so, please summarize the experience in the space provided.

4. **Joseph and the Coat of Many Colors.** Joseph's life is filled with many ups and downs. It is definitely worth reading. Summarize two times God helped him to interpret dreams.

1.	
2.	

5. **Moses and the Ten Commandments.** Fill in the commandments in the space provided.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

6. **Daniel and the Lions.** Why did Daniel get thrown into the lions' den?

7. **Jonah Running from God.** What was the important lesson God had to teach Jonah?

8. **Nehemiah and the Wall.** What favor did Nehemiah ask from the King of Persia?

THOUGHT...

“Joseph’s trials were unjust, inexplicable, and heartrending. Yet Joseph knew God, and he knew that God had a plan.”

– K. Howard Joslin



MEMORIZE | JEREMIAH 29:11

Look it up, write it down, and then memorize the verse.



Chapter 7. Write one more significant fact about these Old Testament stories of God at work.

1. Creation

2. Satan

3. Noah's Ark

4. Joseph and the Coat of Many Colors – Write two more significant facts.

5. Moses and the Ten Commandments

6. Daniel and the Lions – Write two more significant facts.

7. Jonah Running from God – Write two more significant facts.

8. Nehemiah and the Wall



Bible Basics: Study Guide



WEEK EIGHT | PEOPLE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT



READ | CHAPTER 8

And then answer the following questions.

1. Mary

Name three of Mary's qualities that would not have been respected in her culture.

(1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____

Summarize who Mary was and the role she plays in the New Testament.

2. John the Baptist

What was the main and simple message John the Baptist, a prophet, had to share?

John the Baptist baptized Jesus, and then Jesus began his earthly ministry.

What were the special circumstances that led to John the Baptist's death?

3. Jesus

Jesus began a movement that would last forever. His message was of _____ and _____ . Write a few other pieces of information you know about Jesus.

4. Peter

Peter and his brother Andrew were fishermen who became followers of Jesus. Much has been written about Peter and his strong and sometimes impulsive personality. List four of the things you have read and know about Peter on the following lines.

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

5. The Disciples – Briefly write one piece of information about each of the following disciples.

Andrew:

Bartholomew:

James the Elder:

James the Lesser:

John:

Judas:

Jude:

Matthew:

Peter:

Philip:

Simon the Zealot:

Thomas:

Mathias:

6. Paul (formerly Saul)

As Saul, he enjoyed persecuting Jews. Briefly summarize his salvation experience.

Then, Paul (his new name) spent the rest of his life establishing the church and teaching believers who they are “in Christ.”

7. James

James, the half-brother of Jesus, was the leader of the first Christian community. He wrote the book of James, which is filled with metaphors and instruction about practical wisdom.

Complete James 1:19, NIV:

“My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: _____ should be _____ to _____, slow to _____, and slow to _____.

Complete James 1:25, NIV:

“But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it – not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it – they will be _____ in what they do.”

Complete James 5:16, NIV:

“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The _____ of a _____ person is _____ and _____.”

THOUGHT...

“Each one of us is God’s special work of art. Through us, He teaches and inspires, delights and encourages, informs and uplifts all those who view our lives.”

– Joni Eareckson Tada



MEMORIZE | JAMES 3:17

Look it up, write it down, and then memorize the verse.



Chapter 8. Write a significant fact about each person. Then add four more NT names and facts.

1. Mary

2. John the Baptist

3. Jesus

4. Peter

5. Paul

6. James

7. Your choice: _____

8. Your choice: _____

9. Your choice: _____

10. Your choice: _____



Bible Basics: Study Guide



WEEK NINE | STORIES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT



READ | CHAPTER 9

And then answer the following questions.

1. Feeding the 5,000

Fill in the blanks to picture the scene.

People started gathering to hear Jesus and to be healed. Over _____ people.

The crowd was getting hungry, so Jesus asked the disciples to help. Andrew found a boy who had _____ loaves of bread and _____ fish. Jesus gave thanks for the food – and it became enough! All the people were fed, with _____ baskets of food left over!

What is a significant thought from this story for you?

2. Prodigal Son

Fill in the blanks to picture the scene.

A man had two sons. One wanted his _____ now – and left home to create his own adventures – spending all the money. When he looked for work, he ended up feeding _____ – and wishing he could eat their food! He decided to return home to ask forgiveness and work for his father. His father rejoiced that he had returned and even prepared a _____ to celebrate his return. An amazing illustration of God's _____ and _____. Nothing can separate you from the love of God!

The older son/the brother did not rejoice. His father reminded him that everything he had belonged to the older son, so rejoice because the family is back together!

What is a significant thought from this story for you?

3. Day of Pentecost

Fill in the blanks to picture the scene.

Pentecost was a Jewish feast celebrated _____ days after Passover. The twelve apostles were gathered when a massive wind filled the place and _____ of _____ came down on each of them. They were filled with the _____ and spoke in tongues. People thought they were drunk. Peter told them to repent and be baptized.

About _____ people were baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit that day!

During Jesus' earthly ministry, He was _____ with the Holy Spirit, _____ by the Holy Spirit, and _____ by the Holy Spirit. When a person accepts Christ as his or her personal Savior, the _____ comes to dwell or live in that person. What is a significant thought from this story for you?

4. Establishment of the Church

Fill in the blanks to picture the scene.

The disciples were told to not leave Jerusalem. Complete Acts 1:8, NIV:

"But you will receive _____ when the _____ comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in _____, and in all _____ and _____, and to the ends of the _____."

What is a significant thought from this story for you?

5. End Times (Revelation)

Fill in the blanks to picture the scene.

John is exiled on the Isle of Patmos and begins to write the book of Revelation, which is about the second coming of Jesus Christ. The book is organized into three categories:

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

These future events are divided into four major categories:

(1) _____ (2) _____

(3) _____ (4) _____

THOUGHT...

“If you believe in a God who controls the big things, you have to believe in a God who controls the little things.”

– Elisabeth Elliot



MEMORIZE | ROMANS 8:28

Look it up, write it down, and then memorize the verse.



Chapter 9. Write one more significant fact about these New Testament stories of God at work.

1. Feeding the 5,000

2. Prodigal Son

3. Day of Pentecost

4. Establishment of the Church

5. End Times (Revelation)



Bible Basics: Study Guide



WEEK TEN | LIFE AND MINISTRY OF JESUS



READ | CHAPTER 10

And then answer the following questions.

1. The Gospels (first four books of the NT) each record Jesus' life from a different perspective.

Matthew	Announces Jesus as ...	
Mark	Presents Jesus as a ...	
Luke	Focuses on Jesus as ...	
John	Shows Jesus as ...	

2. The Birth of Jesus

The Old Testament predicts Jesus' birth. Micah 5:2 names the town where He would be born: _____ . And, Isaiah 9:6 lists many of the names He will have: Wonderful _____, Mighty _____, Everlasting _____, Prince of _____ . Jesus was born in a manger, and the first people to see him were _____. His mother, Mary, pondered all these things. She knew His birth was a miracle. A dictionary definition of pondered is to think about (something) carefully, especially before making a decision or reaching a conclusion.

3. Jesus Childhood

Matthew tells us that Jesus was the earthly son of Joseph, who earned a living by being a _____. And He had brothers and _____. Luke adds that Jesus "grew and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him." (NIV) Another translation says "the child became a strong robust lad and was known for wisdom beyond his years, and God poured out his blessings on him." (TLB)

Jesus also discussed scriptures with scholars at the temple – Luke 2:41–52. He was only 12, but He knew God was His Father and that He needed to be about His Father's business.

Little is written about his youth. Scriptures are filled with information about His ministry.

4. Ministry Begins

What age was Jesus when He began His earthly ministry? ____ His first act of public ministry? _____ This event was the first appearance of the Trinity. Then, Jesus went into the wilderness to fast for 40 days. Satan tempted Him three times:

5. Jesus Earthly Ministry

Think about how you can briefly summarize some key points in the following section.

1.	First Miracle:
2.	Sermon on the Mount:
3.	Feeding of the 5,000:
4.	Transfiguration:
5.	Raising of Lazarus:
6.	Triumphal Entry:
7.	Last Supper:
8.	Arrest at Gethsemane:

9.	Crucifixion and Burial:
10.	Post-Resurrection Appearances:
11.	Ascension:

6. Jesus' End

The Old Testament is filled with prophecy predicting the birth and death of Jesus. The New Testament is filled with examples of how Jesus fulfilled God's plan for our salvation.

One of the most loved Bible verses, John 3:16, summarizes why Jesus was born:

"... that whoever _____ in Him shall not perish but have _____."

THOUGHT...

"You discover your identity and purpose through a relationship with Jesus Christ."

– Rick Warren



MEMORIZE | JOHN 3:16

Look it up, write it down, and then memorize the verse.



LIFE APPLICATION | LIVING THE LIFE

Answer the following questions.

Skim through all ten weeks of this Study Guide, and then write one special thing you learned while working on the answers for each week.

Week 1: How Did It Get Here?

Week 2: Bible Basics

Week 3: Dive Deeper

Week 4: Let's Investigate Now

Week 5: Life Transformation

Week 6: People of the Old Testament

Week 7: Stories of the Old Testament

Week 8: People of the New Testament

Week 9: Stories of the New Testament

Week 10: Life and Ministry of Jesus

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Taylor Chapman holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Oral Roberts University in Pastoral Christian Ministries and a Master of Theology from Louisiana Baptist University.

He has served in the local church training and equipping people to become leaders in the Body of Christ. With a call from God to raise up a generation that desires the greater things of the Lord, he continually strives to bridge the gap between man and God.

Taylor is married to his partner in ministry, Adrienne, whom he met while attending ministry classes at Oral Roberts University. Today, they minister together, teaching the next generation how to build their relationship with God.

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Bible Basics: Study Guide

ABOUT THE STUDY GUIDE

Have you ever needed a practical resource that will help you in understanding the Bible? It can be so hard to understand when you don't know much about it.

This study guide was designed to teach you in just a few short weeks how you can make sense of the basics of the Bible.

We focus on one chapter per week. The guide follows the book itself as an extra component to bring clarity to each chapter.

I want to teach you the basics of the Bible. This is in no way a complete summary but a beginning for you to start on your journey of the Bible Basics.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Taylor Chapman holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Oral Roberts University in Pastoral Christian Ministries and a Master of Theology from Louisiana Baptist University.

He has served in the local church training and equipping people to become leaders in the Body of Christ. With a call from God to help people to go from where they currently are to where God wants them to be, he continually inspires people to discover their destiny.

Taylor is married to his friend and partner in ministry, Adrienne. Today they minister together, teaching people how to Discover their Destiny by finding their purpose. Together, Taylor and Adrienne have two children, Abigail and Matthew.



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