

	<p><b>STUDY GUIDE</b> for the week of October 12, 2008</p>	<p><b>2G2BT</b> Brad Watson</p>
		<p>All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16</p>
		<p>Is it really too good to be true?</p>

**OPEN IN PRAYER**

**A TIME OF WORSHIP** (Optional) - You may want to sing a hymn or chorus.

**INTRODUCTION**

Everybody has a story. John Eldridge observes, "Life, you'll notice, is a story." Life isn't linear, it comes to us in scenes, moments and experiences, that we read or interpret one at a time. Some we know are coming, some we don't; some we like, others not so much. One thing is for sure we recount, tell and retell our stories because we must. For you see, our stories connect us to others' stories. Is it any wonder that G.K. Chesterton wrote, "I had always felt life first as a story - and if there is a story there is a Story Teller."

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

*Begin by reading John 1:1-18*

1. What is your favorite movie? Why? Assuming it is a story of sorts, what would you say are the ingredients that make it a good story?
2. The Bible claims to be God's larger, true story of redemption. As any good story it has four main parts: Act One - In the Beginning, Act Two - the Fall, Act Three - Redemption, Act IV - the End. What part of the story most fascinates you? What part are you least familiar with?
3. John describes Jesus as the Word, the central person of the story. What do you think John means by calling Jesus the Word? What do you most appreciate about Jesus these days?
4. John declares that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us or, in other words, His Story became our story. How would you describe this, the Incarnation - God becoming flesh - to someone just starting out on their spiritual journey?
5. What do you think that means when people talk about reading the Bible with Jesus as the Centre?

**MOVING FORWARD**

Brad said that it is impossible to understand the smaller stories of the Bible without understanding the larger one. Jesus is the key to understanding both the smaller stories and the larger one because He is the one story that unfolds from beginning to end. Without Jesus, it's impossible to understand God's story and our story. Reflect on the times when you have been aware when God's story and your story have intersected.

**CHANGING YOUR MIND**

You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me and have life. John 5:39-40

**CLOSING PRAYER**