



First Hand Truth

Study the Bible Yourself... to Know God / *this is from August 2025*

I have a dream. It might be from God, it might be just my own thoughts and ramblings. I would like to find out which it is. I know for a fact that there will always be a need for more people to take time to take initiative to study the Word of God for themselves, and that such a thing is not a bad goal for any of us. No matter what level of growth or knowledge, there is no end to learning about the infinite God and how he has chosen to reveal himself to us. With that knowledge, I will begin down this road and see what happens. For God. For his glory. For something bigger than myself. — Rick McNally, July 2025

A ministry dedicated to...

1. To help **individuals** become committed to **first-hand devotion and study of scripture**.¹ Of course there are pastors and teachers, but they are no substitute for first hand relationship with the Lord through scripture.
2. To help **individuals** recognize that **God has enabled them in the Spirit to develop this devotion**, and that they are intended for it. It is like food and water to the soul.
3. To help individuals recognize that this first hand devotion to the word provides **vast benefits** including: increased faith, increased joy, recovery from trauma or faithlessness, and the means to grow into who they ought to be.
4. Helping people see **the dangers of personally abdicating their own responsibility** to know and study the word, or **allowing other individuals** (whether intentionally or unintentionally) to **impede their God-given responsibility** to have a direct relationship with God.
5. Helping people become **more active** in regular study and **equipped** to do (and more capable to do so) so first-hand.
6. Helping local **churches** and **leaders** to be more active and intentional in **encouraging** and **equipping** people to do first-hand study of the Word.

How can this be done? Through a number of ministry focuses...

- Encouragement through the internet / posts, events, etc.
- Encouragement through direct visitation of churches / teaching, demonstrations, things to gather interest.
- Equipping through in-person seminars (electronic and conventional methodologies).
- Equipping through periodic online classes / mini seminars / training videos /etc.
- Equipping through multi-day retreats.

¹ Of course there are **pastors** and **teachers**, but these teachers are intended to be supplemental equippers and encouragers, not overarching mediators. This is the danger of false teachers who make “disciples after themselves.” Jesus himself marked out the boundaries that are often crossed (Mark 10, Matthew 23).