

Introduction to this Study

This year, our theme is *Fearless*, and our theme verse is **Joshua 1:9 “Be brave, be strong, be fearless...you are never alone.”** With that in mind, our study is focusing around the Glenkirk “We believe” statements. These statements are the truths that we hold tight to when things threaten to make us succumb to fear. We have grouped those statements under four main sections, or core values, of our study: **Worship, Become, Invite, and Love.**

The study looks different this year than in years past, so we wanted to give you an overview of how each week will look. There will be a common layout each week to the study. We are hoping that you will be in the word all throughout the week, so you will notice your study is laid out to be done over the course of **five days**. Really, this study will work best if you break it up as designed, over those five days. This will help you to not get overwhelmed with the study and to take your time, letting the passage sit with you throughout the week as you meditate on it. **Here is how each week will look:**

Day 1: Devotional—The first day of the study is meant to be more devotional based. This day you will be given a passage or passages to reflect upon. There will be some leading questions, but most of your time is meant to be spent in prayer and reflection. Start this day focusing on the theme for the week, asking God how He wants you to apply that theme to your life. For instructions on how to enter into this devotional time, see page 9.

Day 2: Observations & Color Code—On this day, you will get a chance to just read the text that you will be studying and observe it. You will find some ideas on page 10 on how to perform observations and some questions to ask. You will also spend time color coding the passage. This will help you organize your thoughts. Instructions on color coding can be found on page 11.

Days 3-4: Method—On the 3rd-4th day of your study, you will be following a Bible study method. These methods are largely found in Rick Warren’s book *Bible Study Methods*. Here you will get a chance to try out different ways of studying the Bible. This is when you will need to consult outside source material. You will find a list of resources that might be helpful on pages 6-8 of your study. This part will take the longest time of the study; however, we encourage you to simply **give it your best**. We know that everyone has different time constraints and may not be able to do every part of the method, and that is OK. We have given you every step of the method so that you can use it for any passage in the Bible when you study on your own. No matter what, you will be in the Word and you will learn something. Do as much as you can and then on Wednesdays, we can all learn from one another.

Day 5: Application—On the last day of study, spend some time in prayer once again, asking God how you should apply this passage. This should be a personal, practical, possible, and provable application. It would be wonderful to also find someone to hold you accountable for this.

We hope you enjoy this study and look forward to learning from one another!