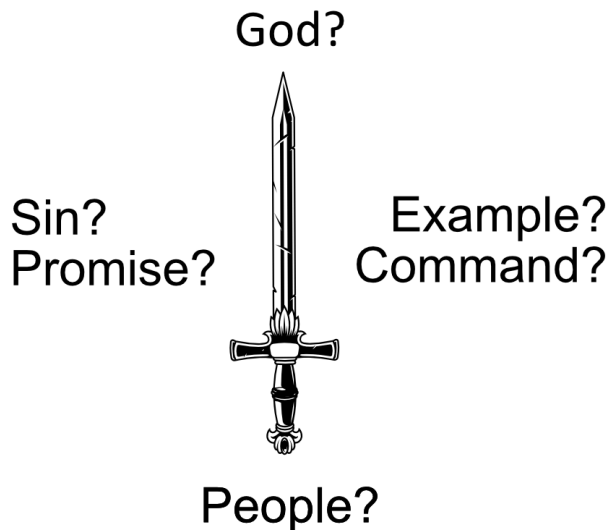


# Sword Bible Study Method

*Hebrews 4:12 says, "For the Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."*

This picture of a sword helps us to teach any passage of the Bible. When we think of a sword we think of four parts of the sword and six questions we need to ask.



The tip points up to the heavens:  
What do we learn about **God**?

The handle is held by people:  
What do we learn about **people**?

Use the acronym "SPEC" to help remember 4 questions on the blades:

Left Blade:

Is there a **sin** to avoid?

Is there a **promise** to claim?

Right Blade:

Is there an **example** to follow?

Is there a **command** to obey?

After reading and telling any story from the Bible, ask these questions one at a time and search the story for answers. The answers you find will reveal the meaning of the story for our lives.

# Commands of Christ 1 – Repent and believe

## Look back

High/lowlights

Pray

Vision: why gather – to encourage each other and grow in Christ

## Look up

Read the Command: Mark 1:15

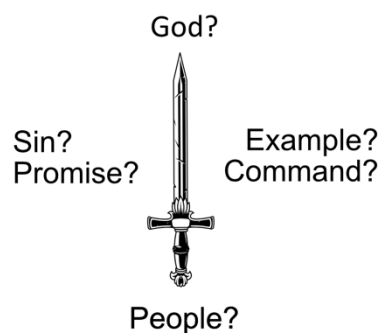
Tell the Story: The Sinful Woman from Luke 7:36-50

Retell the story together from Luke 7:36-50.

Read the story aloud from Luke 7:36-50.

Discover:

Use the Sword Bible Study method to discuss the story (Luke 7:36-50) and reveal its meaning for our lives.



Explore More:

What does "Repent" mean?

Repent means turning from sin and following Jesus.

What does "Believe" mean?

Believe means choosing to trust Jesus as Lord.

Why should we repent?

Read Romans 3:23; 6:23; 10:9

Who should repent?

Acts 2:38-41 - Everyone must repent for forgiveness.

What is assurance?

1 John 1:9 says when we confess our sins, He is faithful to forgive us John 10:28 says our salvation belongs to Jesus.

## Look Forward

C.O.S.T – Connect? Obey? Share? Teach?

# Command of Christ # 2- Be Baptized in Water

## Look back

High/lowlights

How did COST go?

Pray

Vision: why gather – to encourage each other and grow in Christ

## Look up

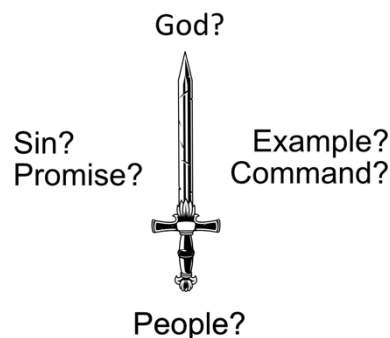
**Read the Command:** In Matthew 28:19, Jesus says...

**Tell the Story** of Phillip and the New Believer from Acts 8:26-39

**Retell the story together.**

**Read the story aloud.**

**Discover:** Use the Sword Bible Study method to discuss the story (Acts 8:26-39) and reveal its meaning for our lives.



## Explore More:

What is "Baptism"?

Romans 6:3-4 -Baptism is a symbol of our life, death and resurrection. It also means that we have died to our old life and been raised to a new life with Jesus.

Why should we be baptized?

Matthew 3:13-15 - Jesus received baptism, so should we. Receiving baptism means we have identified Jesus as our Lord.

Who should be baptized?

Acts 2:38 - Everyone who repents and believes.

How should we be baptized?

Matthew 3:16 - Jesus went down into the water.

## Look forward

C.O.S.T – Connect? Obey? Share? Teach?

# Command of Christ # 3- Be filled with the Spirit

## Look back

High/lowlights

How did COST go?

Pray

## Look up

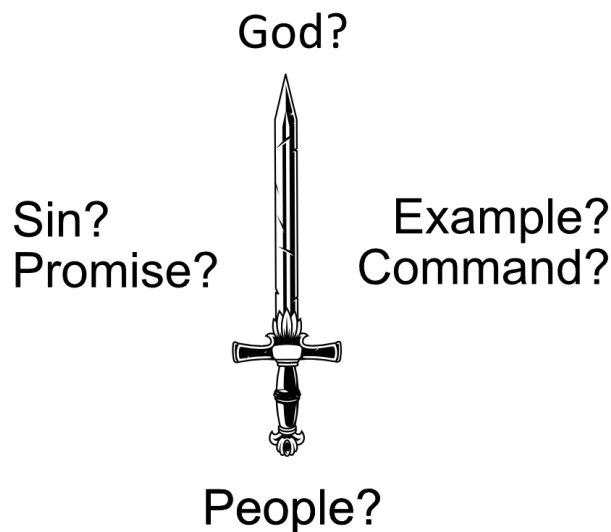
**Read the Command:** in John 20:21-22, Jesus says...

**Tell the story:** Jesus teaches about receiving the Spirit in Luke 11:9-13

**Retell the story together.**

**Read the story aloud**

**Discover:** Use the Sword Bible Study method to discuss the story (Luke 11:9-13) and reveal its meaning for our lives.



## Explore More:

- John 7 :37-39 – Holy Spirit is within us as streams of living water
- Acts 1:8 - Jesus said that they would be filled with the Holy Spirit
- Acts 2:1-4 – The Holy Spirit came upon the disciples
- How do you receive the Holy Spirit? – Ask Luke 11:13

## Look forward

C.O.S.T – Connect? Obey? Share? Teach?

# Command of Christ #4- Go...Make Disciples

## Look back

High/lowlights

How did COST go?

Pray

## Look up

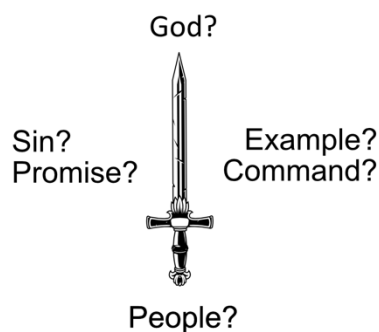
**Read the Command:**In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus says...

**Tell the Story:**The Samaritan Woman from John 4:4-42

**Retell the story together.**

**Read the story aloud.**

**Discover:**Use the Sword Bible Study method to discuss the story (John 4:4-42) and reveal its meaning for our lives.



**Practice** telling the story.

### Explore More:

Who should we share with?

John 4:16 - our families, friends & neighbours

What should we say?

John 4:29 - The woman shared her story and Jesus' story (the gospel)

Who

is qualified to go?

John 4 - The Samaritan woman was. Every believer.

## Look forward

Create a people map of people to pray for

C.O.S.T – Connect? Obey? Share? Teach?

# Command of Christ # 5- Learn to pray

## Look back

High/lowlights

How did COST go?

Pray

Vision: why do we gather? Vision for reaching lost people

## Look up

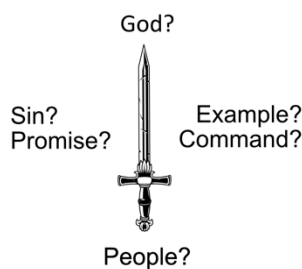
**Read the Command:**In Matthew 6:9-13

**Tell the Story:** Matthew 6:5-15

**Retell the story together.**

**Read the story aloud**

**Discover:**Use the Sword Bible Study method to discuss the story and reveal its meaning for our lives.



**Practice** telling the story.

### Explore More:

- Why do we pray? – God hears us and we desire His will to be done on earth
- How do we pray? – by simply talking with God
- “Our Father...” God is your heavenly father
- “Hallowed be your name...” Ask for God to glorify himself through your life
- “Your kingdom come, Your will be done...” Surrender to God’s kingdom and will being done in and through your life
- “Give us today our daily bread...” Ask for your needs
- “Forgive us our debts...” Ask for forgiveness of any sin, and forgive others
- “Deliver us from the evil one” Pray for deliverance when facing temptation

## Look forward

C.O.S.T – Connect? Obey? Share? Teach?

# Command of Christ #6- Persevering

## Look back

High/lowlights

How did COST go?

Pray

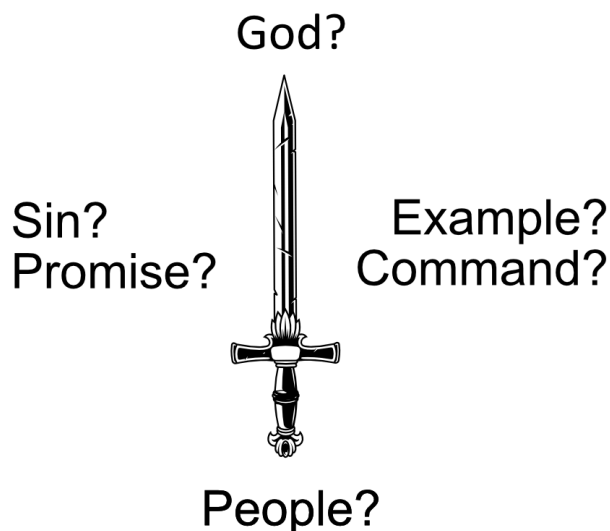
## Look up

**Read the Command:**In Matthew 4:10, Jesus says...

**Tell the Story:** Acts 16:25-34

**Retell the story together**

**Discover:**Use the Sword Bible Study method to discuss the story and reveal its meaning for our lives.



**Practice** telling the story.

### Explore More:

- Who will be persecuted – Matthew 10:16-33 – Every believer must be prepared for persecution
- What is our hope amidst persecution – 2 Corinthians 4:5-18 – our eternity is secure through Jesus
- How can we persevere when persecuted?
  - Don't fear, but rejoice – Matthew 5:11-12
  - Keep proclaiming Jesus – Matthew 24:13-14

## Look forward

Teach 3 circles

C.O.S.T – Connect? Obey? Share? Teach?

# Command of Christ #7- Love

## Look back

High/lowlights

How did COST go?

Pray

Vision: why do we gather?

## Look up

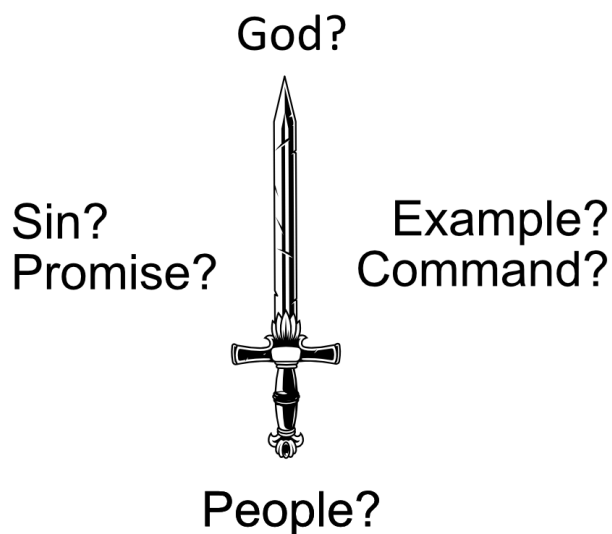
**Read the Command:** Matthew 22:37-39

**Tell the Story:** Luke 10:25-37

**Retell the story together.**

**Read the Story aloud.**

**Discover:** Use the Sword Bible Study method to discuss the story and reveal its meaning for our lives.



**Practice** telling the story.

**Explore More:**

- What is love? – John 15:13, 1 Corinthians 13
- Why do we love? - John 13:34-35
- Who do we love? – Matthew 22:37-39
- How do we love? – John 14:15, 21:17

## Look forward

Practice the 3 circles

C.O.S.T – Connect? Obey? Share? Teach?



# Command of Christ #8 - Lord's supper

## Look back

High/lowlights

How did COST go?

Pray

## Look up

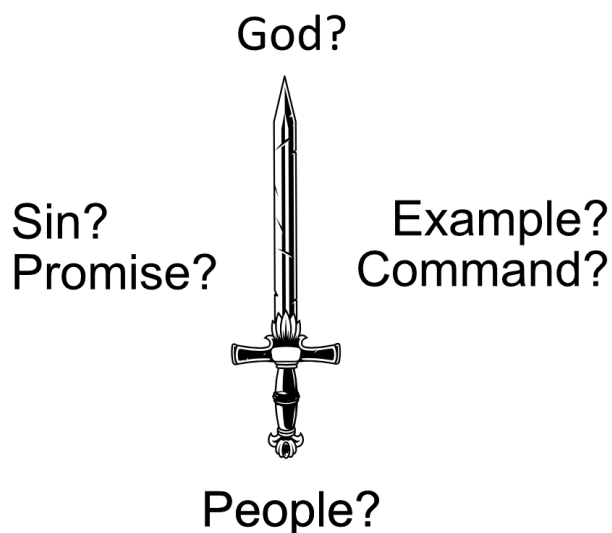
**Read the Command:** Matthew 26:26-28

**Tell the Story:** Luke 22:7-20

**Retell the story together.**

**Read the Story aloud.**

**Discover:** Use the Sword Bible Study method to discuss the story and reveal its meaning for our lives.



**Practice** telling the story.

**Explore More:**

- What is the Lord's Supper?
- Why do we eat the Lord's Supper?
- Who should receive the Lord's Supper?

## Look forward

Practice the three circles

C.O.S.T – Connect? Obey? Share? Teach?

# Command of Christ #9- Give

## Look back

High/lowlights

How did COST go?

Pray

Vision: Why do we gather? Pray for lost people you know

## Look up

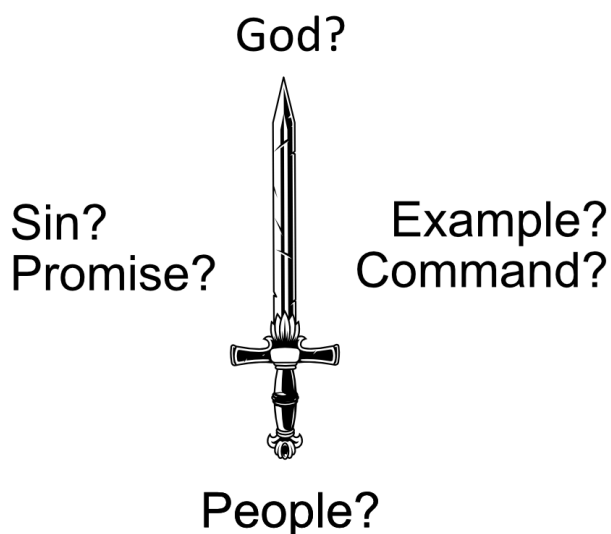
**Read the Command:** Matthew 6:1-4

**Tell the Story:** Mark 12:41-44

**Retell the story together.**

**Read the Story aloud.**

**Discover:** Use the Sword Bible Study method to discuss the story and reveal its meaning for our lives.



**Practice** telling the story.

**Explore More:**

- What should we give to God? – Our money, time, lives
- Why should we give to God? - 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 (everything is His anyway Psalm 24:1)
- How do we give to God? – Cheerfully (2 Cor 9:7) secretly (Matt 6:4)
- Who do we give to? – Those in need (Acts 4:32-35) The Church (2 Cor 9)

## Look forward

C.O.S.T – Connect? Obey? Share? Teach?

# Command of Christ #10- Gather

## Look back

High/lowlights

How did COST go?

Pray

## Look up

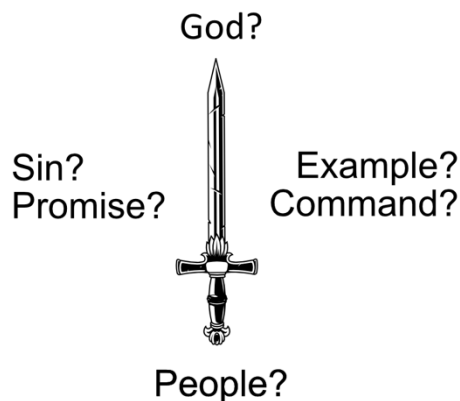
**Read the Command:** Hebrews 10:24-25

**Tell the Story:** Acts 2:36-47

**Retell the story together.**

**Read the Story aloud.**

**Discover:** Use the Sword Bible Study method to discuss the story and reveal its meaning for our lives.



**Practice** telling the story.

### Explore More:

- Who is the church? Acts 2:41 – Baptised believers
- What is the church gathering to do? Acts 2:36-41 - Proclaim the gospel & make disciples; baptize believers, obey God's Word, take Lord's Supper, Pray, Love and fellowship together, give to each other's needs, Praise and Worship God
- When does a church gather? Acts 2:46, Hebrews 10:24-25 - Regularly.
- Where does a church gather? Acts 2:46, 5:42, 17:5-7, 18:7, 19:9, 20:20; Romans 16:1-5; 1 Cor. 16:19; Col. 4:15; Philemon 1:1-2 – Homes and other buildings
- Why does the church gather? 1 Corinthians 10:31, Hebrews 10:24-25 - Glorify God, encourage, and hold one another accountable.

## Look forward

Turn the story into the church circle!

C.O.S.T – Connect? Obey? Share? Teach?