



A NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO MAGNIFYING THE  
"For You have magnified Your Word above all Your Name."

**WORD OF GOD**  
Psalm 138:2

SUMMER | 2018

BLUE LETTER BIBLE

# MAGNIFYING GOD'S WORD

## Blue Letter Bible—Equipping Disciples to Disciple Others

*Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.*  
(1 Corinthians 11:1 NKJV)

It should never surprise us when we discover how God works in the lives of His people, yet at Blue Letter Bible we are continually amazed at His divine providence. Getting to meet BLB users and donors is especially exciting because we get to know individuals who help our ministry do what God has called us to do—provide Bible study resources that help people to effectively disciple others.

We want to introduce you to Pastor James from Dallas, Texas, and one of his congregants, who are both BLB users. James told us,

"I use Blue Letter Bible for my personal devotions, my weekly sermon prep, and my seminar studies. I also find BLB very helpful in one-on-one discipling of others."

After talking to James, we were reminded of the Apostle Paul, the great disciple-maker, who said in 1 Corinthians 11:1, "Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ."

Paul had a tent-making trade to support himself in ministry, but he was first and foremost a servant of the Lord. In like manner, James works as a top-level support tech for the University of Texas Medical School, but his ultimate calling and passion is to minister God's Word and to mentor others. Remember, Paul disciplined young men in the faith like Timothy, who Paul called "a true son in the faith." Pastor James has also been discipling a young man named Timothy, who has become like a son to him.

*Continued on page 2*

**P2** SPEED UP YOUR  
BIBLE SEARCH

**P3** FREE HYMN  
OF THE MONTH

**P4** TESTIMONY FROM  
TWO CONTINENTS

## Blue Letter Bible— Equipping Disciples to Disciple Others

Cover Story (continued from page 1)

James first met Timothy at a Bible seminar where he was teaching, and he noticed that Timothy had lots of questions. Even though Timothy had gone to church as a boy, he did not know or study God's Word. When he visited James's office, Timothy confessed aloud,

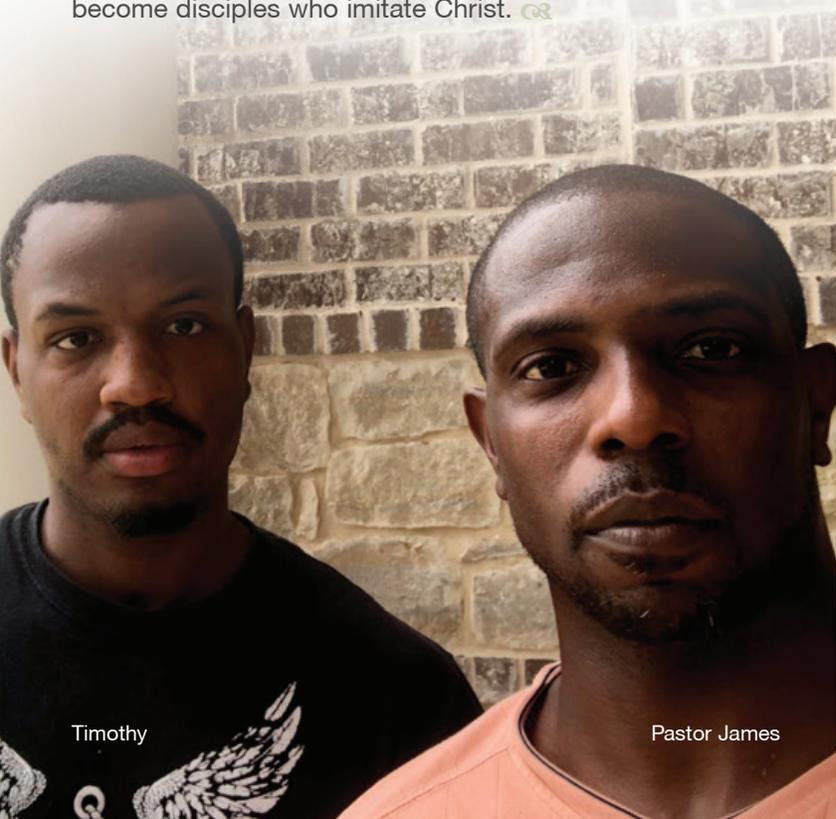
"I can't read."

So, James began to disciple Timothy, teaching him how to read Scripture using Blue Letter Bible. They studied the Bible together in person and over the phone, using the BLB apps and study tools. Several years have passed and Timothy is walking closely with the Lord. He often explains to people,

"I'm grateful for Pastor James. He used BLB to help me learn to read, and God's Word has really come alive for me."

Now, Timothy is a member of the church James pastors, and we learned that he often reads Scripture aloud during services before the whole congregation!

We are truly thankful God allowed us to hear James's and Timothy's beautiful testimony, and that we could share it with you. We hope this powerful example of studying the Bible, and personally applying God's truth, will encourage many to become disciples who imitate Christ. 



Timothy

Pastor James

## STAFF TIP Speed Up Your Bible Search



Dan Davis

Not a very good speller? I can relate. Frequently, I want to jump right to a piece of Scripture and not hassle with my fumbling fingers. When searching for Scripture, did you know that you do not have to spell out the entire name of the book in a Bible reference? We have provided shortcuts to help reduce the amount of typing, and to alleviate spelling difficulties.



Instead of typing out Ezekiel 3, try ez3, or for 1 Thessalonians 5:5, try 1th5:5. We are not sensitive about letter casing either. This feature may seem trivial, but it really speeds-up jumping to multiple Scriptures during a Bible study or church service. And these shortcuts also work very nicely in our BLB mobile apps for iOS and Android. – Dan Davis, lead web developer since 2001. 

## Get Caught Up on BLB News and Staff Tips

Have you missed editions of previous BLB newsletters? You can read all of our archived newsletters on our website. You will find encouraging stories of how God has used BLB in the lives of His people around the world. You might also discover a helpful BLB feature or tool that you were unaware of. Check out our newsletter archives at: [BLB.org/Newsletter](https://www.blb.org/newsletter). 

# Enjoy Beautiful Modern Hymns for Free

Getty Music has partnered with Blue Letter Bible to give you a new hymn resource each month for the next several months, including free MP3 song downloads and sheet music! Visit our Free Hymn of the Month page (while each hymn is available), where you can access the song lyrics, videos, and insights about the hymns.

For anyone who is not familiar with the musical talents of Keith and Kristyn Getty, they are known for re-inventing the traditional hymn style, blending beautifully orchestrated contemporary music, and placing a strong emphasis on the truths of Scripture in their lyrics.

At the beginning of each month, we will rotate a new hymn on our site for you to download and share with friends. Our collective goal in this partnership is to promote sincere, Bible-centered worship in the hearts of God's people all around the world. You can visit the Getty Music website for more information at [GettyMusic.com](http://GettyMusic.com).

Our e-mail newsletter subscribers will receive an announcement each month with that month's featured hymn. If you have not yet subscribed, please visit [BLB.org/newsletter](http://BLB.org/newsletter).

Download hymns and song sheets at [BLB.org/GettyMusic](http://BLB.org/GettyMusic). 



## New Content to Enrich Your Study Time



### From Don Smith – Detailed study notes on the Book of Habakkuk

Can the ancient Book of Habakkuk still be one of the most relevant books in the Bible for today? Pastor Don Smith reminds us that Christ calls His Church to be a beacon of light in the darkness, much like the prophet Habakkuk was called to do centuries ago. We can shine the light of Christ in this world, as we cling to faith in God and in His Word. These thoroughly outlined study notes are a companion to Smith's audio series, "A Faith to Cling To." 



### From Don Perkins – A chronological look at prophecy through the Scriptures

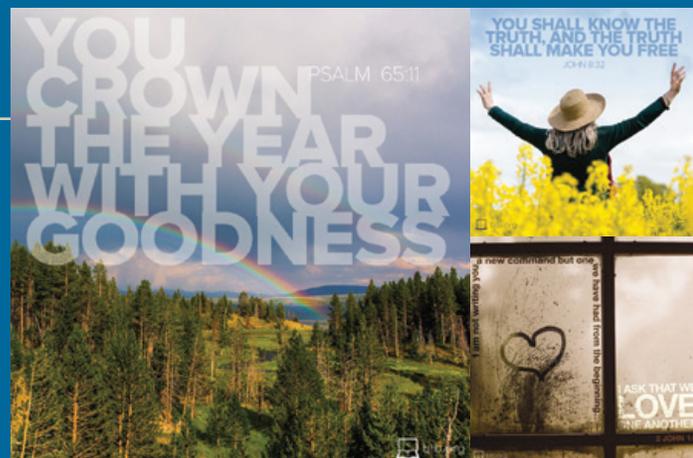
In his video presentation, "God's Order of Events," Evangelist Don Perkins examines Bible prophecy as a whole. He visits topics that include: what Bible prophecy is, and why we should study it. God controls all of history and He has a divine order of events, which He alone controls. Complete with detailed slides, Perkins gives a concise Biblical chronology of the past, the present, and the future. 

## Free Scripture Images to Download and Share

Social media has become a very large part of our culture, and Blue Letter Bible desires to use it for God's glory by providing you with Christ-exalting images that you can download and share with your friends—absolutely free.

As people check their news feed, you can use these images to remind them that our hope is in heaven, and not in the things of this world.

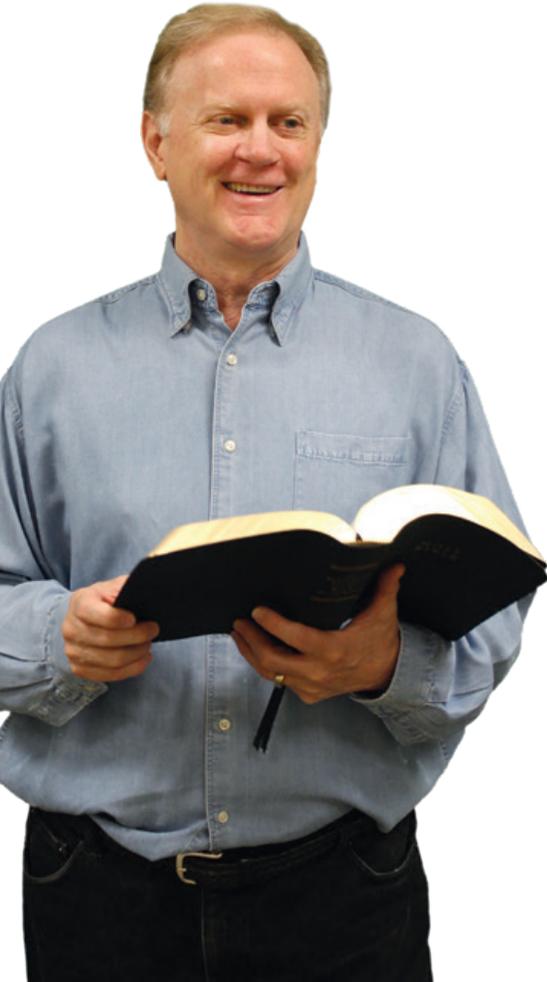
Find these images and more at: [BLB.org/SocialImages](http://BLB.org/SocialImages). 





# GOD'S WORD IS **ALIVE** & **ACTIVE**

## Trusting God



Just as with the seasons of the year, we experience seasons of life. There are seasons of plenty, where joy is abounding and the presence of our Heavenly Father feels close. Then there are those times of difficulty and pain when it is tempting to question God instead of trusting Him. However, often, growth happens in those difficult times. It may be hard to see what God has in store, but we can have assurance that He is working. As Romans 8:28 states, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." An example of this can be found in our cover story featuring the testimony of Timothy. God's providential hand has brought Timothy close to Christ through the help of a pastor and the Scriptures accessed via the BLB app.

A few other things featured in this edition of our newsletter include our new partnership with Getty Music, a testimony from a BLB user of nearly 20 years, and a tip from one of our developers that can help you navigate BLB just a bit quicker.

I pray that as the summer season winds to a close, you will continue to seek Christ and what He has for you. It may look different from what you had planned, but rest in the assurance it will ultimately be for His glory, and your good.

**Jim Milligan**  
President/CEO

## A Testimony from Two Continents

I have been using BLB since 2001 and it has been extremely helpful for my ministry in remote areas of Israel and North America. In these places I don't always have access to physical study materials, and

so the BLB website has been an invaluable resource.

— Jess

To tell us your story, go to [BLB.org/YourStory](http://BLB.org/YourStory)

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