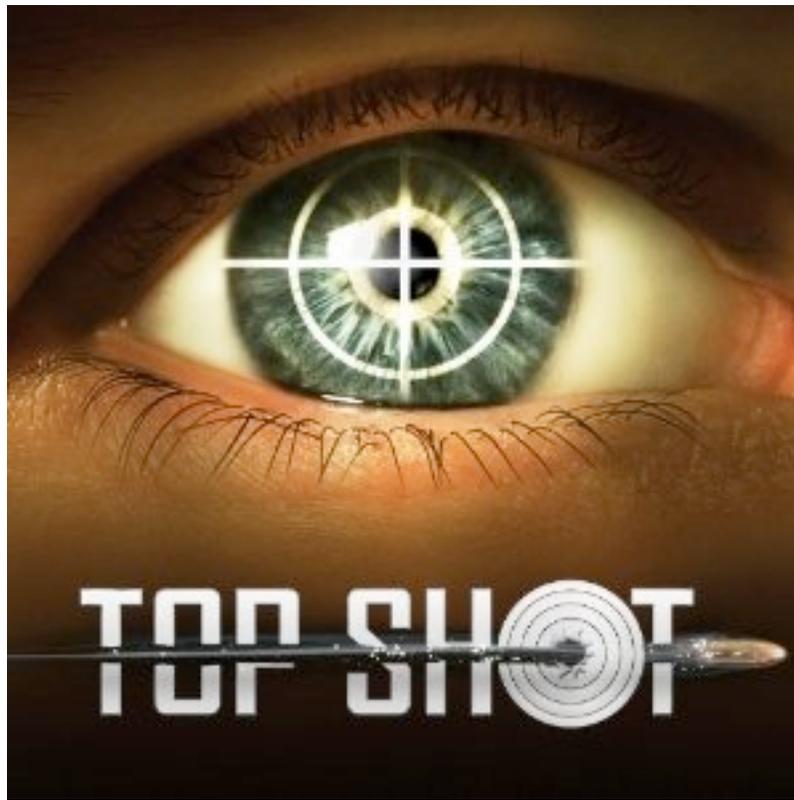


The Apostle Paul's Guide To Living A Top Shot Faith



An 8 Week Bible Study
For Jr. and Sr. High Guys

Introduction

If you haven't noticed, there aren't a ton of cool, guy only curriculums out there. Sure, there's some guy Bible Study curriculum that is discussion driven, but does it allow your guys to throw sharp things? Because, that is what guys really want to do. In most guy studies, it's all talk and no action. Guys want action.

When I saw the show Top Shot, it screamed, "Bible Study for guys! Use me!" As I looked up the word aim in scripture, I noticed that many of the verses were from the Apostle Paul. Paul certainly knew something about keeping his aim true. Our guys can learn a lot from the writer of most of the New Testament and a man's man in his own right (see 2 Corinthians 11:23-29)

As in my other studies, I did not do all the work for you in this study. You'll have to decide how many studies to use, what kind of weapons to use, what questions will work and what questions won't etc.. You know your kids better than I do, so feel free to re-work this any way you want.

I can't promise your guys will walk away from this study more mainly, but it's a start. Have fun and aim straight.

Paul Turner

Paul Turner
[Disciple Project Ministries](#)

Sample Meeting

Opening Question: How was your aim this week?

6:30 Students Arrive

6:45 Eat

7:00 Top Shot Competition

Each students get 3 shots with the sharp stuff (knives, throwing stars, etc.) and a full clip with the air-soft guns at the target.

7:30 Bible Study

Begin with the question, "How was your aim this week?'. This is an accountability question. What part of your Christian life did you aim at this week (longer prayer time, shred my faith, was more loving and kind, etc.) and did you hit it?

Closing

Prayer requests/setting a new aim.

Eat some more

Key Verses For The Eight Week Bible Study

Week 1

However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace." Acts 20:23-24 NIV

Week 2

"Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air." I Corinthians 9:26 NIV

Week 3

"So then, let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up." Romans 14:19 NLT

Week 4

"So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him." 2 Corinthians 5:9 ESV

Week 5

"yea, making it my aim so to preach the gospel, not where Christ was already named, that I might not build upon another man's foundation;" Romans 15:20 ASV

Week 6

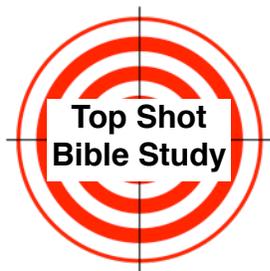
"No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him." 2 Timothy 2:4 ESV

Week 7

"for we aim at what is honorable not only in the Lord's sight but also in the sight of man." 2 Corinthians 8:21 ESV

Week 8

Finally, brothers, good-by. Aim for perfection, listen to my appeal, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. 2 Corinthians 13:11 NIV



The Apostle Paul Had Good Aim

Our Aim Tonight: Discovering our aim as believers

Key Verse: "However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me-the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace." Acts 20:23-24

Ask: How was your aim this week? (Let everyone share who wants to.)

Small Group Questions

Did you have something you HAD to get done or that you WANTED to do this week, and rearranged your life to make it happen? What was it? Was it easy or hard? Was it worth it?

The Apostle Paul did not discover his true aim until Jesus rocked his world.(Acts 9). Do you think people wait until something bad happens until they decide to get real with God? Why or why not?

Do you ever get nervous that you've lost your aim for Christ? When? What gets you back on track?

Is it possible to keep your aim and not lose it? How?

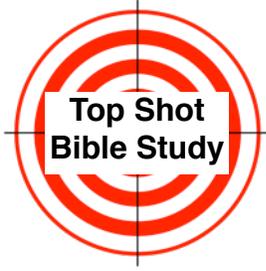
Have a student(s) **Read:** Acts 11:23, 2 Timothy 4:7

Two keys to keeping your aim for Christ every day according to The Apostle Paul

1. Consider yourself dead to the world and to your personal passions.
2. Pursue and complete what God calls you to.

Closing: Let students set some new goals for their week ahead.

Prayer



The Apostle Paul Did Not Waste His Time

Our Aim Tonight: Making our actions count

Key Verse: “Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air.” I Corinthians 9:26

Ask: How was your aim this week? (Let everyone share who wants to.)

Small Group Questions

Info on Infomercials: This year an estimated \$1.5 billion dollars in product sales/service will be generated by infomercials. Juicier mania of 1991 is an excellent illustration. Juicers went from \$10 million in the retail category to \$380 million in 12 months due to infomercials ([Market Chicago Naturally](#))

People spend a ton of money on things they do not need and eventually do not want.

What do you think is the most useless product on late night t.v. (or anywhere else)?

Why do you think it's useless?

What do you think the Apostle Paul meant by “I do not run like a man running aimlessly?” (Clue: There were not a lot of joggers in Paul's day. Everyone who ran, ran in a competition to get a prize)

What do you think the Apostle Paul meant by “ I do not fight like a man beating the air?”

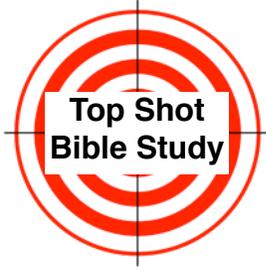
What “useless” things in your life get you distracted from your aim for living for Christ?

How can you make your words and your action count?

Have a student(s) **Read:** Hebrews 12:1, Philippians 3:14, I Corinthians 9:24

Closing: Let students set some new goals for their week ahead.

Prayer



The Apostle Paul Aimed For Harmony and Unity

Our Aim Tonight: Pursuing unity and harmony

Key Verse: “So then, let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up.”
Romans 14:19 NLT

Ask: How was your aim this week? (Let everyone share who wants to.)

Small Group Questions

If any of you are sports fans, can you name a dysfunctional sports team in any sport?

What makes them dysfunctional?

How has social media (especially Twitter) made teams open to more dysfunction?

Have a student(s) **Read** Romans 14:13-18

The verse for this week comes from the Apostle Paul’s discussion about certain religious practices and whether they are o.k. or not. What comes from this seemingly minor issue, a host of other problems are revealed.

What were these believers doing to each other in verse 13?

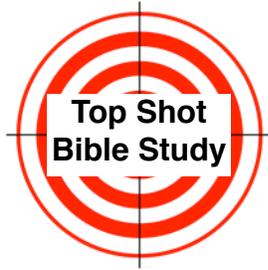
Why should we be careful with our actions according to verse 15?

What is the Kingdom of God really about according to verse 16? How can we use this focus to create more unity in our youth ministry?

How can you use your actions and words to create more harmony in your life? School? Family?

Closing: Let students set some new goals for their week ahead.

Prayer



The Apostle Paul Aimed To Please God No Matter Where He Was

Our Aim Tonight: Pleasing God

Key Verse: “So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.”
2 Corinthians 5:9 ESV

Ask: How was your aim this week? (Let everyone share who wants to.)

Small Group Questions

Does your football team play better at home or away? Why?

Is it easier to be a Christian at church or at school? Why?

Home field advantage makes a difference but, we can't make excuses for losing away games. It may be easier to live for Christ in a church service or camp, but pleasing God is a lifestyle. The Apostle Paul didn't care where he played. He challenged the Corinthians to live their lives for Christ where ever they were. The next line he writes tells why it is so important to keep our aim:

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

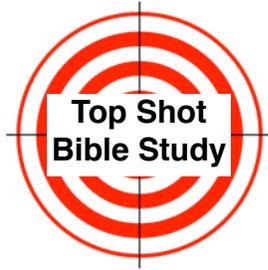
If you were to rewarded today, based on how you've pleased God thus far, what would that reward look?

The Apostle Paul made pleasing God his aim and wanted it to be the aim of those believers to whom he wrote his letters.

Have a student(s) **Read:** Colossians 1:10, 1 Thessalonians 4:1

Closing: Let students set some new goals for their week ahead.

Prayer



The Apostle Paul Aimed For Those Who Did Not Know Christ

Our Aim Tonight: Sharing the good news of Jesus

Key Verse: ““yea, making it my aim so to preach the gospel, not where Christ was already named, that I might not build upon another man's foundation;” Romans 15:20 ASV

Ask: How was your aim this week? (Let everyone share who wants to.)

Small Group Questions

Who do you think the most famous celebrity is word wide? In other words, if you mentioned their name in Africa or Canada, people would be familiar with them? (let your students guess) If you base it on [social media](#), it's Lady Gaga. Sheer name recognition or by a iconic picture, it's probably still Michael Jackson

If you asked your friends who Jesus is, according tot the Bible, would they get the answer right?

The questions we sometime ask is “Who do you THINK Jesus is?” Has who we think Jesus is become more important than who Jesus really is?

The Apostle Paul was a converted Jew. Instead of trying to go out and try to convince the Jews who believed in God, but not in Jesus as messiah, he chose to reach Gentiles, people who had little knowledge of the Jewish God or Jesus.

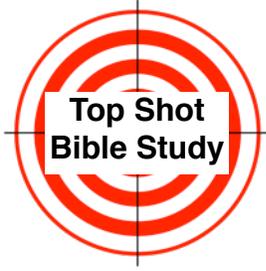
Which do you lean towards, encouraging Christians to live as Christ lived or telling someone about Jesus who doesn't really understand who Jesus is.

Have a student(s) **Read:** 2 Corinthians 10:15-16, Romans 10:14,15

The Apostle Paul broke new ground. Will you?

Closing: Let students set some new goals for their week ahead.

Prayer



The Apostle Paul Aimed To Please God By Being Distraction Free

Our Aim Tonight: Staying untangled from worldly things

Key Verse: “No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.” 2 Timothy 2:4 ESV

Ask: How was your aim this week? (Let everyone share who wants to.)

Small Group Questions

What would our military look like if all the reserve soldier tried to run their business or work for their bosses from the battle field? It’s the same for believers. We become so easily distracted with our “other life” that we forget there is war going on.

According to the verse above, who are we try to please? In the case of our faith, this would be Jesus. What has been distracting you from this lately?

The apostle Paul equates being a believer to being a soldier. What kind of war do you think we’re in?

What are some of the “civilian pursuits” Christians become distracted with?

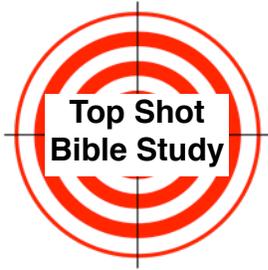
What do you think the results of the “war” would be if too many Christians “soldiers” become entangled? Who, other than us, are impacted by our distractions?

Have a student(s) **Read:** Galatians 5:1, 2 Peter 2:20

According to these verses, what is the cost of entanglement?

Closing: Let students set some new goals for their week ahead.

Prayer



The Apostle Paul Aimed To Do What Is Honorable

Our Aim Tonight: Do what is honorable

Key Verse: “for we aim at what is honorable not only in the Lord’s sight but also in the sight of man.”
2 Corinthians 8:21 ESV

Ask: How was your aim this week? (Let everyone share who wants to.)

Small Group Question

“The greatest way to live with honor in this world is to be what we pretend to be”- Socrates

If you could live inside any fantasy book, such as a comic book or movie, which would it be? Why?

Is it easier to pretend or to be real? Why?

What does it mean to be honorable?

The Apostle Paul’s desire that we be honorable in the Lord’s sight and man’s sight. Which is easier? Harder? Why?

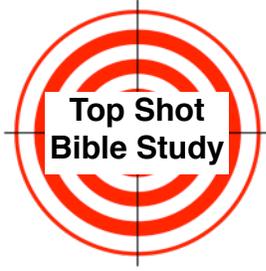
Can you think of a parable Jesus told where someone acted honorably? (The Good Samaritan, The Lost Sheep) What made the person in each of these parables honorable?

Have a student(s) **Read** I John 4:7,8, Romans 12:17, I Timothy 3:7, I Peter 2:12

Jesus talked just as much about loving people as he talked about loving God. In fact, the two concepts are inseparable. It’s impossible to love God without loving others.

Closing: Let students set some new goals for their week ahead.

Prayer



The Apostle Paul Aimed For Perfection

Our Aim Tonight: Aim for perfection

Key Verse: “Finally, brothers, good-by. Aim for perfection, listen to my appeal, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.” 2 Corinthians 13:11 NIV

Ask: How was your aim this week? (Let everyone share who wants to.)

Small Group Questions

How do you describe perfect?

Describe the perfect action movie? The perfect sports team? The perfect woman?

We all have an idea of what is perfect, but God also has his idea of perfect. God created perfect world before sin, God created man and woman perfect until sin, and God sent his sinless son, Jesus, to die to take away our sins.

Have a student(s) **Read:** Matthew 5:48, Matthew 19:21, Colossians 1:28, 2 Corinthians 7:1 Ephesians 5:1

Do you ever feel the pressure to be perfect? In what part of your life?

Does Jesus really expect us to be perfect in every way?

How perfect are you in church attendance? Bible reading? Prayer? **News Flash:** We never will be perfect in this life. This is why we need Jesus all the more, because we will never be perfect without Him. In fact, we won't be perfect in any shape or form until we get to heaven, but the Apostle Paul said, we should aim for perfection any way.

Closing: Let students set some new goals for their week ahead.

Prayer

Rewarding Your Top Shots



I went to the local Army/Navy store and picked up a few patches. If you do not have an Army/Navy store near you, I have a patches up on my [Squidoo](#) site that you can purchase from Amazon.



These were patches given to the Top Shots of the night. This may mean they got closest to the target or had the most hit on a target.



This patch was give to the Top Shots of the throwing knives competition.



This was a patch given to our air soft Top Shots



This was a recruiters patch I found. This was in case anyone brought a friend (hey, it could happen)



This is a marksman's medal and was awarded to the guy who had the most Top Shots over the weeks

For more badge ideas, tips, and pics, please visit my [Squidoo](#) site

Disciple Project Ministries



Disciple Project Ministries is Paul Turner, a blog, and a healthy dose of skepticism about youth ministry in it's current state.

For the past three years Paul has been sharing his thoughts on how to improve and/or obliterate the current youth ministry format. His frustrations manifest themselves in very honest blog posts, original youth curriculum and ideas, and sometimes tweets that he wish he would have thought through first.

If this sounds like someone you want to join forces with, then please:

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Paul doesn't just rant, he can actually help you plan and execute your ideas. If you are looking for custom curriculum or youth ministry coaching, the rates are reasonable and the take away will be invaluable.