

Incorporating God's Life-Changing Word into Your Writing

With Michael J. Klassen

I. Introduction

Let's play *Scripture or Culture!*

II. The Word is a Who, Not a What

John 1:1,14

“In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God... The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

The Word is a person.

Grace must come before truth.

The Word is not a formula.

John 5:39

“You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me.”

Two tendencies among writers:

III. Why Incorporate God's Word into Your Writing

2 Timothy 3:16–17

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

God's word changes us.

God's word reveals Jesus.



IV. When to Incorporate God's Word into Your Writing

V. How—and How NOT—to Incorporate God's Word into Your Writing

5 Essential Do's:

5 Essential Don'ts:

VI. Bible Translations

Literal translations

Dynamic equivalence

Paraphrases

VII. Other factors

VIII. Best practices

IX. Practical tips



X. Resources

Software

Logos Bible Software: [Logos.com](https://www.logos.com)

Free, pared-down version of Logos <https://www.logos.com/free-bible-study-software>

Accordance: <https://www.accordancebible.com/>

Olive Tree: <https://www.olivetree.com/>

Laridian: <https://www.laridian.com/>

Free Online Bible Study Tools

Bible Gateway: <https://www.biblegateway.com/>

Bible Study Tools: <https://www.biblestudytools.com/>

Blue Letter Bible: <https://www.blueletterbible.org/>

Christian Classics Ethereal Library: <http://www.ccel.org/>

Books

Exegetical Fallacies by D.A. Carson (Baker Academic)

IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament by Craig Keener (IVP Academic)

IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament by John Walton et al (IVP Academic)

NIV Zondervan Study Bible, by Zondervan

ESV Study Bible, by Crossway

The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament by Spiros Zodhiates

The New Bible Commentary, Gordon Wenham, ed (IVP)

The New Bible Dictionary, I. Howard Marshall, ed (IVP)

A History of Israel by John Bright (Westminster)

The Treasury of Scripture Knowledge, Jerome H. Smith, ed. (Thomas Nelson)

Where To Find It In The Bible by Ken Anderson

