

# THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

Maybe you grew up in an environment where the answers to all of your hard questions began with the words, "The Bible says . . ." Those answers probably satisfied many of your questions, but perhaps there were other times when you still wondered. It is no surprise that a core value for this and many other churches is a commitment to the reliability and authority of the Bible. Unfortunately that value, apart from an understanding of the Gospel, can lead to legalism and a distortion of Jesus' teachings. Join us for part one of **Tightrope** where we explore the healthy tension between being biblically grounded and Gospel-centered.

**PASSAGE:** Mark 9:2-9

## CORE VALUE:

We are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ .

- We believe \_\_\_\_\_ is the Bible's main character.
- All scripture is equally \_\_\_\_\_ , but not equally \_\_\_\_\_ .
- We value the Bible as God's \_\_\_\_\_ Word and Jesus is its \_\_\_\_\_ .

Being \_\_\_\_\_ saves us from \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ .

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## BALANCE CHECK:

Biblically grounded \_\_\_\_\_ Gospel-centered

Questions:

- Do you hold others and yourself to unattainable standards based on biblical commands?
- Do you excuse sin without regard to its cost or consequences?

## DAILY READINGS:

Day 1: Mark 9

Day 2: Luke 24

Day 3: John 4

Day 4: John 5

Day 5: Matthew 5

Day 6: Matthew 6

Day 7: Matthew 7

## SUGGESTED RESOURCES:

### Books:

Eat This Book, by Eugene Peterson

### Sermon Series

([ssbc.org/sermon-archive/series/](http://ssbc.org/sermon-archive/series/)):

Elements (2011)

Walk This Way (2019)

Boundaries, Pt. 2: Laying Down the Law  
(January 20, 2019)

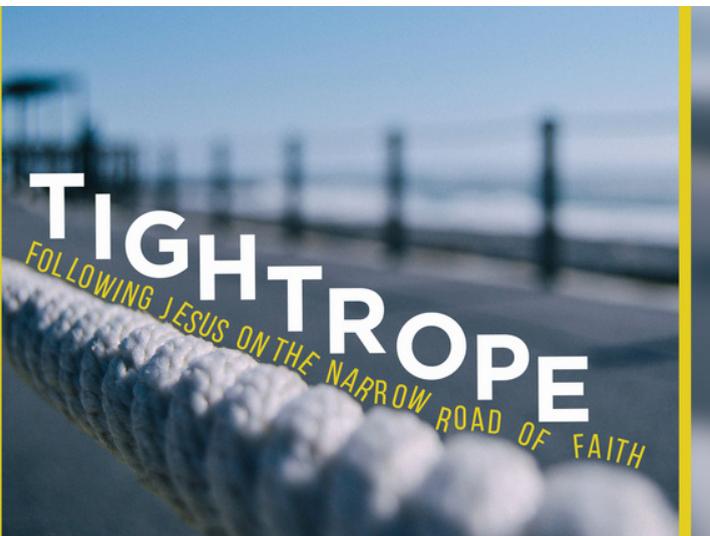
Losing My Religion, Pt. 2: The Holy Hand Grenade  
(February 16, 2020)

Because: Why we teach from the Bible in every sermon (October 22, 2017)

### RightNow Media

(visit [ssbc.org/family-resources/](http://ssbc.org/family-resources/)):

The Bible for Grown-Ups: by Andy Stanley



# SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Today we are beginning a new series called *Tightrope*. In our worship gatherings we will focus on our church's core values and how those values provide clarity in times of uncertainty. Today in our small group we are going to consider Jesus' personal mission statement and how His mission must become ours.

## HANGOUT [WARMING UP TO THE TOPIC]:

1. Do you work for a company with a mission statement? What is it? Do you believe your company is accomplishing that mission?
2. *Pathways* is a document outlining the mission, vision, strategy, values, and culture of Southside Baptist Church. A copy of *Pathways* is available online at [ssbc.org/tools](http://ssbc.org/tools). Printed copies are also available in small group rooms or the literature racks on campus.

## HEAR [LISTENING TO GOD THROUGH SCRIPTURE]:

3. Each of these passages tells us about Jesus' mission. Read each and then consider the answers to the questions that follow:
  - Read John 3:16-17.
    - Based on these verses, how would you describe Jesus' mission?
    - What might surprise your unchurched friends and family about this mission?
  - Read Mark 2:15-17.
    - What surprised the Pharisees about Jesus' mission?
    - What was Jesus doing that made His mission statement more than just words?
    - Why is it important that we not only have a mission but that we allow that mission to change and direct our actions?
  - Read Luke 4:17-30.
    - Based on these verses, how would you describe Jesus' mission?
    - Why did the crowd who "marveled at Jesus" now want to kill Him?
    - What does Jesus say to clarify misconceptions about His mission?
    - When have you been frustrated that Jesus' mission did not align with your mission?
4. Each of these passages describes the mission of the Church. Read each and then consider the answers to the questions that follow:
  - Read Matthew 28:18-20.
    - What mission did Jesus give His followers?
    - What specific tasks did He mention? Why do you think He mentioned those specific tasks?
    - Is there anything Jesus DIDN'T mention that we might find surprising or disturbing?
  - Read Acts 1:8.
    - Where are we to accomplish that mission? How do the specific locations mentioned in this verse relate to us today?
    - Based on Acts 1:8 and Matthew 28:18-20, what is the church's source of authority for accomplishing this mission? Where does the church get the power and resources to accomplish this mission?
  - Read 2 Timothy 2:2.
    - How many generations of disciples are mentioned in this one verse?
    - How does this verse relate to Matthew 28 and Acts 1?
    - Based on this verse where does Paul encourage Timothy to spend his time and energy?
5. Southside's mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ and equip those who do.
  - How does that mission align with Jesus' mission? With Acts 1:8 and Matthew 28:18-20? With 2 Timothy 2:2?
  - Are we living out that mission? If so, how? If not, what is the problem?
  - What does this mission and Jesus' directions for the church mean for you personally?

## HUDDLE [MAKING IT PERSONAL AND PRAYING TOGETHER - IN HUDDLES]:

6. Who are you discipling? Is that person discipling anyone else? If the answer to either question is "no one", what needs to happen? Talk about it, invite accountability, and take time to pray.