

Walk Thru the Bible Presents:



# CHISELED

BECOMING THE MASTERPIECE GOD CREATED YOU TO BE

PHIL TUTTLE

Course Workbook

WALK THRU THE BIBLE®

BIBLICAL  CHARACTER  
S E R I E S



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*CHISELED: Becoming the Masterpiece God Created You to Be*

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TAKE A WALK. CHANGE THE WORLD.

*Helping people everywhere live God's Word . . .  
and love God's Word.*

That's where "igniting passion for God's Word," a phrase we use frequently, comes in. Our mission is to create a path to help people encounter God, to connect them with His heart and open their ears to His voice. We believe that making disciples is more than simply making converts; it's helping people cultivate a dynamic, growing relationship with God. And igniting passion for His Word is a vital part of that mission.

### *How do we do that?*

By getting people into His Word every way we know how, and with an approach that's engaging, relevant, and memorable—even exciting and fun! In our live events, we race through the Old or New Testament in a few hours. With our devotionals, we linger in the Bible over the course of a year. With our small group resources, we walk through the Bible—actually portions of it or topics from it—in a few weeks. We partner with local churches around the world to provide teaching, tools, and training to pastors, leaders, and all other believers with solid, biblical resources. And over the course of three decades, our discipleship materials have reached millions of people. Walk Thru the Bible ignites passion for God's Word through innovative live events, inspiring biblical resources, and a global impact that changes lives worldwide . . . including yours.

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Visit us at [www.walkthru.org](http://www.walkthru.org)

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### *Step into the Story: Innovative Live Events*

Experience live events that unveil God's Word as you've never known it before. Our live events tell God's story in a way that's interactive, relevant, and fun. As you're learning God's story, you're developing insight into yours—and enjoying an adventure that will last a lifetime. We offer more than 10 different live events, including *otLIVE* and *ntLIVE*.



### *Take a Walk: Biblical Resources*

Delve into resources that impact your spiritual journey wherever you are. For more than three decades, we have developed resources that help people grow in their relationship with God and apply His Word to daily life. We do that through Bibles, small group studies, devotional magazines, books, and more.



### *Change the World: Global Impact*

Get involved in a global ministry that impacts lives around the world. Walk Thru the Bible is dedicated to developing a global network of pastors and Christian leaders who make life-changing biblical resources available worldwide. Our global network has helped to change lives, preserve families, address social needs, and inspire churches in more than 130 countries. Reaching their communities in dramatic ways, our global partners are helping to change the world, one person at a time, through the power of God's Word.

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Visit us at [www.walkthru.org](http://www.walkthru.org)

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# CHISELED: *Becoming the Masterpiece God Created You to Be*

*"Every block of stone has a statue inside it and it is the task of the sculptor to discover it."*  
—Michelangelo

When a master artist is creating a sculpture, he has a plan in mind for the stone. Whether it's a forceful blow on the stone that frees a torso or a quiet tap that fine-tunes a facial feature, the skilled sculptor knows what he wants to achieve. He uses his chisel to produce the work of art he envisioned before he even picked it up.

Welcome to *Chiseled*. For the next six sessions, we're going to walk through the life of Simon Peter. Together we'll discover how God chiseled or transformed Peter from a common fisherman into a strong leader, from a chunk of rock into an exquisite masterpiece.

Like a master sculptor, God used trials and teaching to shape and sculpt Peter into His likeness. He does the same with us, because He wants to make us more like Jesus. Even in the chiseling process, we can be sure that He loves us deeply, and He has a plan that He wants to accomplish in us.

Like Peter, we can be chiseled into the masterpieces God wants us to be.

Learning together with you,

*Phil Tuttle*

Philip S. Tuttle  
President and CEO  
Walk Thru the Bible





# CHISELED

BECOMING THE MASTERPIECE GOD CREATED YOU TO BE

CALLED TO FOLLOW

LUKE 5

SESSION 1



## STEP INTO THE STORY

*"Few souls understand what God would accomplish in them if they were to abandon themselves unreservedly to Him and if they were to allow his grace to mold them accordingly."*

—St. Ignatius

*"A sculptor wields/  
The chisel, and the  
stricken marble  
grows/To beauty."  
—William Cullen  
Bryant, "The Flood  
of Years"*



## CHISELED Called to Follow

As we begin our series on how God transformed Peter from a common fisherman into a strong leader, let's look at two foundational passages.

### Ephesians 2:8-10

<sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.

<sup>10</sup> For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

While works aren't capable of saving us, once we enter into a relationship with Jesus Christ, our good works take on tremendous value as part of God's eternal plan. The process of becoming like Jesus lasts a lifetime.

That's what we see in the life of Peter. The Greek word translated "handiwork" is *poeima*, from which we get the word *poem*. A redeemed person is God's poetry. It could also be translated as "workmanship" or "masterpiece."

*"I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free." —Michelangelo*

God uses trials and teaching to chisel us, to transform us to become more like Him.

### 1 John 3:1-3

*See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup> Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup> All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.*

We are masterpieces in the making. Unlike an inanimate piece of stone, God invites us to participate, to partner with him in the process.

God is seeking not just \_\_\_\_\_ who populate heaven but \_\_\_\_\_ who imitate Jesus.

STEP INTO  
THE STORY

*"In every block of marble I see a statue as plain as though it stood before me, shaped and perfect in attitude and action. I have only to hew away the rough walls that imprison the lovely apparition to reveal it to the other eyes as mine see it." —Michelangelo*

## THE SETTING

### Luke 5:1-2

*One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. <sup>2</sup> He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets.*

## THE PROGRESSION

### Luke 5:3

*<sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.*

Jesus asks Peter to \_\_\_\_\_ his boat.

Peter's \_\_\_\_\_ makes it possible for more people to hear Jesus.

**Becoming a disciple often begins with an unexpected opportunity.**

### Luke 5:4-5

*<sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." <sup>5</sup> Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."*

Peter \_\_\_\_\_ it will work but \_\_\_\_\_ anyway.

Peter risks \_\_\_\_\_ from his family and coworkers.

**Becoming a disciple often conflicts with our experience, expertise, and expectations.**

*"God is using the circumstances of our lives, all the circumstances of our lives, as tools. He goes about His work the same way Michelangelo went about his. Within the rough-hewn stone of the self is trapped the image of Christ. To release the image, He chips away everything that isn't Jesus."*

*—Ken Gire, The Work of His Hands*



## STEP INTO THE STORY

*"The stone wants to be stone; the artist wants it to be art."  
—Lorenzo Domin-  
guez, sculptor*



## CHISELED Called to Follow

### Luke 5:6-8

*<sup>6</sup> When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. <sup>7</sup> So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!"*

Peter recognizes the contrast between Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ and his own \_\_\_\_\_.

### Luke 5:9-11

*<sup>9</sup> For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, <sup>10</sup> and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." <sup>11</sup> So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.*

Jesus calls Peter to fish for \_\_\_\_\_.

### Becoming a disciple ultimately redefines our life purpose.

Like Peter, we're all somewhere in this life-long process of chiseling, and we'll see in this series that God uses the same methods with us that He used with Peter. Rather than resisting Him, let's partner with Him and embrace what He's doing in our lives.

Do you remember the first time God used you to do something for Him? Share that story with your small group. If you're not comfortable doing that, feel free to pass this time. But if you will take the risk and share your story, it'll be good for you and will likely inspire someone else who may be struggling with the same thing.

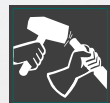
STEP INTO  
THE STORY

## DISCUSS WHAT YOU'VE HEARD

1. Before this session began, what did you know of Peter? If someone were to ask you to describe him, what would you have said?
2. Like Peter, have you ever had an unexpected opportunity because of being a disciple of Christ?
3. Peter doubted that he would catch any fish when Jesus told him to let down his nets, but he obeyed anyway. How did Jesus respond to his doubt? His obedience? What can we learn about doubt from this exchange between Peter and Jesus?
4. Why is it hard to risk looking foolish for Christ?
5. Jesus used something from the disciples' daily lives, fishing, to teach them about himself and to show His power. Is there something in your life that God has used to show you more of Himself?

*Whoever can be  
trusted with very  
little can also be  
trusted with much,  
and whoever is  
dishonest with very  
little will also be  
dishonest with much  
(Luke 16:10).*

*"I am a fool for  
Christ...whose fool  
are you?"  
—Brother Andrew*



## STEP INTO THE STORY

*"Nothing is happy  
until it fulfills the  
purpose for which it  
was created by God."  
—Jack Hyles*

*"All of God's people  
are ordinary people  
who have been made  
extraordinary by the  
purpose he has given  
them."  
—Oswald Chambers*



## CHISELED Called to Follow

### FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

1. Do you consider yourself a follower of Christ? If so, has it changed your life purpose? How?
2. When Jesus calls for your obedience, do you respond right away? Do you hesitate? Or do you ignore his call? Is there something He is asking you to do now?
3. Has God ever asked you to give something up for Him? Did you obey? What was the result?
4. How has following Jesus conflicted with your experience or expectations of Him? Has He ever surprised you?
5. Are there any people in your life that you could "fish" for? Write their names here and commit to pray for them regularly.



# CHISELED

BECOMING THE MASTERPIECE GOD CREATED YOU TO BE

PHIL TUTTLE

With a chisel, a plan, and a lot of patience, the Master Artist transforms a chunk of rock into a masterpiece. Yet this particular work of art is not on display in the finest museum but in the pages of God's Word. There we see God take the brash and impulsive Simon Peter and turn him into the man, the leader, God always intended him to be. We can learn a lot from Peter's life as we look at how he was:

- Called to Follow
- Willing to Risk
- Challenged to Grow
- Motivated to Serve
- Allowed to Fail
- Restored to Lead

In God's hands, anyone can become a masterpiece. His work in Peter's life shows how He can work in our lives, too, to lovingly shape and sculpt us into the likeness of His Son, living masterpieces that will forever reflect the beauty and glory of the Artist Himself.

## Walk Thru the Bible

Helping people everywhere live God's Word isn't just a mission statement to us—it's our passion. We know the key to life change is passion for God and His Word, and we work in over 130 countries to bring His truth to the world.

When you see what your partnership with us can accomplish, it will ignite that passion in you too. When you see His truth prompting ministries to AIDS victims and orphans, influencing leaders in government and education, or reaching millions in "closed" countries, it's easy to start seeing doors of opportunity everywhere and to dream big. Taking a walk can change the world. Find out how at [www.walkthru.org](http://www.walkthru.org).

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