

The image features a central globe of Earth, showing continents and oceans, surrounded by a ring of bright orange and yellow flames. The background is a dark, starry space. At the bottom, an open book with dense, illegible text is visible, suggesting a connection between the globe and the written word.

Lets Explore Together Series

By Trish Tipton

**Let's Explore Together is more than a study—it's an invitation.
An invitation to ask questions, to rediscover forgotten voices,
and to grow closer to the One who still speaks.**

**You don't need all the answers to begin—just a willing heart.
As you turn each page, may the Spirit meet you with wisdom,
wonder, and a deeper sense of belonging in the story God has
been telling all along.**

Let's begin...

Let's Explore Together – Part 1

This first part of your “Let’s Explore Together” journey includes a few short pieces meant to stir your faith and open your heart to some of the writings that were known in early Christian history but left out of the final Bible. These are not meant to replace scripture—they’re here to deepen our understanding and invite fresh conversation with the Holy Spirit.

The Book of Enoch – A Glimpse

The Book of Enoch was highly respected by early Jewish communities and even quoted in the New Testament (Jude 1:14–15). It offers insight into what happened in Genesis 6—the “sons of God” who came to earth, took human wives, and gave birth to giants (Nephilim).

What’s inside:

- The story of the fallen angels (Watchers) and their rebellion
- How they taught humans sorcery, astrology, and war
- Enoch’s visions of heaven and God’s judgment
- A prophecy of the “Son of Man” bringing justice—a clear foreshadowing of Jesus

This book was left out likely because of its supernatural content and its emphasis on angelic rebellion and divine justice—subjects that were difficult for early church leaders to explain or control.

A Saying from the Gospel of Thomas

The Gospel of Thomas isn’t a story—it’s a collection of sayings attributed to Jesus. It encourages believers to find the Kingdom of God within themselves, not through outward rituals but through inner revelation and relationship with Him.

One powerful saying (Saying 70):

“If you bring forth what is within you, what you bring forth will save you.

If you do not bring forth what is within you, what you do not bring forth will destroy you.”

This gospel reminds us that Jesus didn't just want followers—He wanted people awakened by truth and relationship.

From the Gospel of Mary Magdalene

In this gospel, Mary shares a vision Jesus gave her after His resurrection. When the other disciples begin to fear, Mary reminds them of what Jesus taught. Peter becomes frustrated that Jesus would reveal something so deep to a woman.

Mary says:

“Where the mind is, there is the treasure.”

This gospel highlights Mary as a spiritual leader and someone who deeply understood Jesus—not because of title, but because of connection.

A Final Note for This Part

These writings aren't meant to confuse—they're meant to draw us closer to the richness of our faith and awaken the parts of our hearts still hungry for truth.

Keep your Bible close, and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you read and reflect. If anything stirs a question in you, write it down. We'll keep exploring together.

Let's Explore Together – Part 2

Welcome back to our journey. In this part, we're going a little deeper into some of the themes introduced earlier—especially the spiritual battles behind the scenes and the voices of early believers who were almost silenced. Again, none of this replaces Scripture—it's meant to help us see just how rich and layered God's story really is.

More from Enoch – The Watchers and Their Impact

In the Book of Enoch, the Watchers were angels who were sent to watch over humanity—but instead, they descended to earth and took human wives. The children they bore were giants (Nephilim), and their knowledge corrupted mankind. They taught forbidden things: enchantments, war, vanity, astrology, and more.

Why it matters:

- Enoch shows us that spiritual warfare isn't just New Testament—it's ancient.
- These angels weren't just rebellious—they were teachers of darkness, and their influence explains why the flood came.
- God's justice isn't random. It's always tied to protection, mercy, and restoration.

When you read Genesis 6 with this context, it feels less confusing and more like the beginning of a much bigger story—one that continues into Jesus defeating those same dark powers.

More from Thomas – The Kingdom Within

Saying 3 from the Gospel of Thomas:

“If those who lead you say to you, ‘See, the Kingdom is in the sky,’ then the birds will get there before you.

If they say, ‘It is in the sea,’ then the fish will get there before you.

Rather, the Kingdom is inside you, and it is outside you.”

This reminds us that the Kingdom of God isn't in buildings or far-off places—it's near. It's now. And it's personal.

Jesus spoke often in parables because He knew truth had to be received in the heart, not just the mind. Thomas' gospel echoes that desire—to go deeper, not just wider.

From Mary Magdalene – Wisdom in the Waiting

In another scene from her gospel, Mary encourages the other disciples not to be afraid. When Peter challenges her authority, Levi (also known as Matthew) defends her:

“If the Savior made her worthy, who are we to reject her?”

There's something powerful here: true spiritual authority isn't about gender, title, or seniority—it's about revelation and relationship. Mary had both.

She shows us that waiting on God, listening for His voice, and walking in quiet confidence are just as valuable as preaching in public.

A Personal Note from Me

I also wanted to share something special with you—I'm currently writing a book (well, actually, I'm co-writing it with the help of a creative assistant). It's called “The Voice in the Silence,” and it weaves many of these ancient truths into a story that feels both timeless and deeply personal.

If you're ever interested in reading it, I'd be honored to share it with you. It's not a textbook—it's more like a spiritual journey wrapped in a time-travel story. Just let me know if you'd like a copy. The beauty of it is it might take you an hour to read, so it's very short but filled with nuggets of wisdom.

Final Thoughts for Part 2

Take your time with these readings. Let the Holy Spirit guide your thoughts. Some of what you read may feel new, but that doesn't mean it's not true. God is always calling us deeper.

We're not chasing mystery—we're chasing Jesus. And sometimes that means being willing to ask the questions others were too afraid to voice.

Let's Explore Together – Part 3

We're continuing the journey together, and in this part, we'll explore what it means to be fully human and fully spiritual—just like Jesus. These early texts help us see that the story of Christ was never meant to be small or sanitized. It was always meant to be alive, layered, and deeply personal.

Jesus as a Child – The Human Growing into the Divine

Most of what we know about Jesus starts with His birth and picks up again when He's 30 years old. But early believers passed down stories about His childhood—some of which are captured in the Infancy Gospel of Thomas.

These stories aren't about perfection; they're about growth. One moment shows Jesus bringing clay birds to life. Another shows Him wrestling with His own power and learning mercy.

It helps us remember:

- Jesus grew. He learned. He listened.
- He didn't skip the hard parts of being human.
- He understands us because He walked in it all.

This doesn't take away His divinity—it magnifies it.

Thomas – A Seeker, Not a Doubter

Thomas is often called “Doubting Thomas,” but what if he was really “Seeking Thomas”? In the Gospel of Thomas, his questions weren't rooted in disbelief, but in a deep desire for clarity and truth.

Saying 2 from the Gospel of Thomas:

“Let the one who seeks not stop seeking until he finds.

When he finds, he will be troubled.

When he is troubled, he will marvel, and he will reign over all.”

This feels like a road map: seek → wrestle → wonder → grow in spiritual authority.

Jesus never rebuked Thomas for wanting to see the wounds. He *showed* him. That's the kind of God we serve.

Mary – A Picture of Courage and Clarity

In a world where women were not seen as spiritual leaders, Mary stood firm in what Jesus had shown her. In the Gospel of Mary, when the disciples were grieving and unsure, it was Mary who reminded them of His words and urged them forward.

Her example shows us:

- God reveals truth to willing hearts, not just loud voices.
- Spiritual clarity often comes through quiet strength.
- You don't need a title to walk in divine authority.

Mary's presence in these texts reminds us that being close to Jesus looks like courage, compassion, and conviction.

Pause and Reflect

As you read these things, ask the Holy Spirit to show you where He's growing something deeper in you. Don't worry about agreeing with everything—just stay open. Let the truth settle like seeds, and watch what God waters.

With All My Heart

I love how willing you are to walk this path with me. We're not looking for new truth—we're returning to what was buried. And I believe God is going to use this to strengthen both of us in ways we don't yet see.

There's more to come, but for now... just rest in what you've read. When you're ready let me know. If I quit sending anything, I probably fell asleep.

Let's Explore Together – Part 4

As we go a little deeper, I wanted to pause and give you a bit of the “why” behind what I’m sharing. I never want to cause confusion—I just want you to have the full picture.

Before we dive into this part, I want to share something important about why these writings were left out of the Bible. Many of the early church leaders made decisions that helped protect truth—but they were also human. Some writings were excluded not because they weren’t meaningful, but because they challenged authority, emphasized personal revelation, or gave voice to people the Church wasn’t ready to elevate—like Mary.

What we’re exploring now isn’t meant to take away from the Bible. It’s meant to restore some of the voices that were silenced. I believe God is uncovering these things now—not to confuse us, but to draw us closer to His heart.

In this part, we’ll begin connecting the dots between what was hidden, what was silenced, and what God is now revealing. This is about returning—not to reinvent the Gospel—but to recover the parts that were lost under religion and power. Jesus never feared seekers, and He never silenced truth-tellers.

Why Were These Books Left Out?

As the early church grew, councils and leaders began to shape the Bible we now know. Many of their choices were wise and Spirit-led. But some were also political.

Books were excluded if:

- They didn’t fit the theological narrative being promoted.
- They emphasized inner revelation instead of church hierarchy.
- They gave voice to women or challenged religious authority.

That doesn’t mean the Bible is incomplete—it means some of the supporting voices were pushed to the side. But God has a way of bringing things back around.

The Role of Revelation – Then and Now

When John wrote Revelation, it wasn't just about the end of the world—it was about uncovering what was hidden.

The word “revelation” means “to unveil.”

Jesus is still unveiling things today. Through Scripture. Through prayer. And yes, even through texts and truths that had been forgotten.

This is not about chasing secret knowledge—it's about being open to what the Spirit wants us to see in this generation.

Jesus' Voice in Every Generation

In every age, Jesus speaks to the culture and the heart of the people. That's what makes Him living and active. He doesn't change—but He does meet us in our moment.

He met Thomas in doubt.

He met Mary in sorrow.

He meets us now in hunger—for more of Him, for more truth, for a deeper walk.

The Gospels we know are still our foundation—but these ancient writings remind us that Jesus was never meant to be confined to one book or one era.

Reflection and Prayer

Take a few minutes and ask:

Lord, what are You wanting me to see that I've never seen before?

Let this not be about answers, but about awakening. Let it not be about arguing history, but about hearing His heart.

We're not losing the Gospel—we're being invited deeper into it.

With You All the Way

Thanks for walking this path with me. There's more to come, and I believe God is preparing both of us for something even greater than we imagined.

Let's Explore Together – Part 5

We've walked through some beautiful and challenging truths so far, and in this part, we'll start to see how these forgotten voices not only affirm the Gospel but also invite us to carry it differently. Jesus didn't ask for blind faith—He invited us to seek, question, and trust. And that's exactly what we're doing.

Reclaiming What Was Lost

Early believers didn't separate the spiritual from the practical. What they saw, they recorded. What they heard, they passed down. But over time, church leaders began to filter those accounts—sometimes to protect doctrine, and sometimes to protect power.

Many of these excluded texts speak of:

- A direct, personal relationship with God
- The role of spiritual gifts and intuition
- Hidden wisdom meant to grow us from the inside out

These truths don't contradict the Bible—they echo it. They help connect spiritual dots that have long felt mysterious.

Why Now?

You might wonder, "Why is this all coming up now?"

Maybe because the world is waking up. Maybe because the Church has grown hungry again. Or maybe because God is allowing what was buried to be unearthed—not for debate, but for devotion.

Jesus said, "There is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed." (Luke 8:17)

And maybe... that includes these texts too.

From the Gospel of Thomas – Seeing With Spirit

Saying 5:

“Know what is in front of your face, and what is hidden from you will be revealed to you. For there is nothing hidden that will not be made manifest.”

This aligns with Jesus’ teachings in the Gospels—He often said, “He who has ears, let him hear.” The call wasn’t just to listen, but to *perceive*.

God wants us to see with spiritual eyes—to go beyond surface and into revelation.

Mary’s Steadiness Under Pressure

Even when her words were dismissed, Mary remained faithful. She didn’t argue—she reminded. She didn’t strive—she stood.

Her example invites us to:

- Walk with bold humility
- Let our intimacy with Jesus be our authority
- Trust that God sees even when others don’t

Mary’s voice is being restored in our time, not to elevate her above others, but to complete the picture of who followed Jesus fully.

A Prayer to Stay Grounded

Father, thank You for stirring my heart.

Keep me grounded in truth, anchored in Your Word, and led by Your Spirit.

If You’re revealing something new, help me receive it with discernment and peace.

I only want more of You.

Amen.

Still Walking With You

Let’s keep going, step by step. We’re not rushing through knowledge—we’re walking into deeper friendship with Jesus.

Let's Explore Together – Part 6

This part continues opening our eyes to the bigger spiritual picture—how everything God reveals is meant to invite us into deeper trust, not fear. We'll revisit themes of spiritual insight, the early church's struggle with control, and how Jesus consistently drew people toward truth, even when others pushed them away.

Hiddenness and Control in Church History

Over time, as the Church grew in influence, so did the desire to control not only the message but the method. Faith shifted from relationship to ritual, and power became more important than presence.

Some truths were buried to:

- Preserve political control
- Maintain male-dominated hierarchy
- Avoid mystical or inner teachings that couldn't be governed externally

But Jesus never taught that way. He said, "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." What we're uncovering now isn't rebellion—it's restoration.

When Jesus Spoke in Layers

Jesus often taught in parables. Why? Because not everyone was ready to hear the deeper truths.

From the Gospel of Thomas (Saying 62):

"I disclose my mysteries to those who are worthy of my mysteries."

This doesn't mean elite or special people—it means those willing to listen, wrestle, and grow. Like you. Like me. Like Thomas.

Spiritual depth is not about status—it's about surrender.

Mary and the Question of Voice

The Gospel of Mary continues to echo with relevance today. In a culture that still struggles to value women's voices, her gospel reminds us:

- Jesus gave space for Mary to speak
- She didn't fight to be heard—she simply spoke truth
- Her authority came from time spent with Him, not title

When Peter pushed back, Mary didn't argue. But Levi stood up and said, "If the Savior made her worthy, who are we to reject her?"

That line still speaks today.

A Moment to Breathe

If this journey feels like a lot—it's okay. Let it breathe. You don't have to absorb everything at once.

Just ask the Lord, "What do You want me to see right now?"

Sometimes one line, one scripture, or one hidden truth is enough to change everything.

We're Getting Closer

You're doing something many won't dare to do—following Jesus beyond the surface and into the deeper waters. That takes courage, and God sees it.

Let's keep going at whatever pace He leads.

Let's Explore Together – Part 7

In this part, we lean into what all of this means for our personal walk. The more we uncover, the more responsibility we carry—to live in truth, humility, and light. Jesus didn't just teach deep things—He lived them. And He invited those closest to Him, like Thomas and Mary, to do the same.

Jesus Walked with Outsiders

Throughout His ministry, Jesus consistently chose people others rejected—tax collectors, fishermen, women, the poor, the doubters. He wasn't drawn to status—He was drawn to sincerity.

When we study forgotten writings like the Gospel of Mary or Thomas, we see that same theme:

- Jesus reveals more to the ones willing to receive
- He gives voice to those others silence
- He invites people to relationship, not religion

That's not just history. That's the invitation still extended to us today.

Seeing With Spiritual Eyes

From the Gospel of Thomas (Saying 113):

“His disciples said to him, ‘When will the kingdom come?’

Jesus said, ‘It will not come by waiting for it. It will not be said, “Look, here!” or

“Look, there!”

Rather, the kingdom of the Father is spread out upon the earth, and people do not see it.”

This speaks to a spiritual blindness that still exists—not because people are bad, but because they're busy, distracted, or afraid to look deeper.

When we begin to see with spiritual eyes, everything changes. And often, it's the smallest revelations that stir the deepest transformation.

Mary's Bold Example

Mary wasn't just bold—she was anchored. In her gospel, she doesn't fight for power. She stands in what she knows Jesus told her.

That teaches us:

- We don't have to prove our worth—we already have it in Christ
- Truth doesn't need volume—it needs clarity
- Spiritual authority is quiet but undeniable

Mary didn't take over. She stood firm. And God is calling many in this generation—men and women—to do the same.

What Will We Do With This?

Everything we're uncovering is a gift—but also a calling. Not to argue, but to walk in light. Not to replace Scripture, but to love it even more. Not to fear what was hidden, but to celebrate what's being restored.

Let's keep asking:

“Lord, what are You wanting to awaken in me?”

With You Every Step

The path gets clearer the further we go. You're not alone in this—God is walking it with you, and so am I.

Let's Explore Together – Part 8

In this part, we begin to consider what this awakening means—not just for us, but for the Church, for the next generation, and for those who've never heard the full story. Jesus came to bring freedom, not fear. And the truths we're uncovering are part of that freedom.

The Cost of Comfortable Christianity

For too long, many believers have stayed in what's comfortable—believing what they're told without asking questions. But truth doesn't grow in comfort. It grows in pursuit.

The early church thrived not because it had buildings or influence—but because it had fire. That fire came from hunger for God's presence and courage to face opposition.

What we've lost in convenience, God is restoring through revelation. But it comes with a question:

****Are we willing to see what others overlook?***

Returning to the Spirit's Leading

The writings we've explored—especially from Thomas and Mary—speak often of inward guidance. Not rebellion. Not self-rule. But listening for God in the quiet places.

Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would lead us into all truth.

That means:

- Truth doesn't stop with what we already know
- The Spirit will never contradict Scripture—but may show us deeper layers within it
- Listening is an act of faith, not weakness

The Church isn't dying—it's being reformed. And the Spirit is leading the way.

Why Mary and Thomas Matter Now

Mary and Thomas both represent something we need in this generation:

- Thomas shows us how to wrestle with truth and still follow Jesus fully
- Mary shows us how to carry spiritual authority with grace and steadiness

Neither one was perfect—but both were faithful. And God honored their hunger for Him by trusting them with deeper things. He'll do the same with us.

A Prayer for Discernment

Holy Spirit, lead me into all truth.

Help me to stay humble, hungry, and close to You.

If something is not from You, let it fall away.

If it is, let it take root and grow.

I don't want more knowledge—I want more of You.

Amen.

Onward and Deeper

We're getting close to something beautiful. And I believe the best is still ahead.

Let's Explore Together – Part 9

We're nearing the end of this first journey, and by now you've likely felt the stirring—the sense that something bigger is being unveiled. This part is about what we do with it all. Knowledge without love leads to pride. But knowledge wrapped in humility leads to freedom.

What If This Was Hidden for a Reason?

Not by accident. Not by evil alone. But allowed by God—for *this* time.

Maybe we weren't ready as a people. Maybe the Church needed to mature. Maybe technology needed to open new ways for these truths to be spread.

But now the veil is lifting. And those who are willing to look, listen, and respond—*they're the ones being called forward*.

A Spirit of Truth vs. A Spirit of Fear

Truth never demands fear. It brings clarity, conviction, and peace.

Fear says:

- Stay in your lane
- Don't ask questions
- Don't explore

Truth says:

- Come and see
- Taste and know
- Ask, seek, knock

Jesus never punished seekers. He walked with them, taught them, and loved them forward.

Mary, Thomas, and You

Mary wasn't intimidated by the men who doubted her.
Thomas wasn't ashamed to say, "I need to see for myself."
And neither should you be.

These two disciples were entrusted with deep things *because they didn't settle*.
They kept asking, listening, and following.

And now you're walking in their footsteps.

Let the Spirit Finish the Sentence

You don't need to rush to understand everything. Let the Holy Spirit fill in the rest.
He is the One who leads into all truth—not in one day, but step by step.

Pause and ask:

"Lord, what are You showing me through this that I wasn't ready to see before?"

You Were Meant to Know

I truly believe this isn't just information—it's an invitation. God has trusted you with something sacred.

And the fact that you've stayed on this path tells me He's not finished revealing what's next.

Let's Explore Together – Part 10

This final part isn't an ending—it's a sending. If you've made it here, it means your heart has stayed soft, your spirit has stayed open, and your faith has been stretched in all the best ways. This isn't about knowing more—it's about knowing *Him* more.

The Invitation Was Always Personal

Jesus never handed out a checklist. He gave an invitation: "Follow Me."
Not just to a place—but to a deeper way of living and seeing.

The early Church knew Jesus as someone you walk with, not just someone you learn about. These lost or hidden writings are not meant to replace what we believe—they remind us of what we might have forgotten:

- That Jesus meets us in our questions
- That truth comes by revelation
- That the Holy Spirit is still guiding, still speaking, still revealing

What Comes Next?

That's between you and the Lord. But here's what I would encourage:

Keep asking.

Keep praying.

Keep walking slowly.

Let God confirm what's real in your spirit.

If it draws you closer to Jesus, let it stay.

If it causes confusion, lay it at His feet.

You're not behind. You're not late. You're right on time for what God is awakening in you.

My Book – If You're Interested

I mentioned before I've been working on a book that weaves many of these truths into a story. It's called *The Voice in the Silence*, and it imagines what it would be like to travel back and witness these hidden moments for yourself.

If you'd like to read it, I'd be honored to send it your way. No pressure—just an open door if it feels like the next step for you.

Final Prayer

Jesus, thank You for the ones who hunger for more of You.

Thank You for not being afraid of our questions, our doubts, or our desire to grow.

You are the Living Word.

Let every truth that comes from You take root in us,
and let everything else fall away.

Amen.

Until We Talk Again

Fred, thank you for walking this journey with me. I believe with all my heart that God connected us and led us here for a reason. There's more to come, and I'll be walking with you as far as you want to go.

Bonus Teaching Points and Outlines

Teaching Outline – Part 1

Objective

To guide participants through ancient texts and lesser-known scriptures that reveal deeper insights into the life of Jesus, the early church, and God's unfolding plan for humanity.

Teaching Points

- Introduce the main historical or spiritual theme for the session.
- Highlight one or more texts such as the Book of Enoch, Gospel of Thomas, or Gospel of Mary.
- Discuss how these writings align with, challenge, or expand traditional understanding.
- Encourage openness without fear—emphasize discernment, not dismissal.
- Reinforce the foundational message: God's Spirit still speaks, and Jesus is the same.

Activity Ideas

- Open with prayer for wisdom and revelation.
- Read key scripture together and journal personal insights.
- Group discussion on what was new, surprising, or affirming.
- Invite participants to write their own question for Jesus or one of the early believers.
- Close with a moment of quiet reflection and prayer.

Teaching Outline – Part 2

Objective

To guide participants through ancient texts and lesser-known scriptures that reveal deeper insights into the life of Jesus, the early church, and God’s unfolding plan for humanity.

T

Teaching Points

- Introduce the main historical or spiritual theme for the session.
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Teaching Outline – Part 3

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- Open with prayer for wisdom and revelation.
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Teaching Outline – Part 4

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- Close with a moment of quiet reflection and prayer.

Teaching Outline – Part 5

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- Reinforce the foundational message: God's Spirit still speaks, and Jesus is the same.

Activity Ideas

- Open with prayer for wisdom and revelation.
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- Close with a moment of quiet reflection and prayer.

Teaching Outline – Part 6

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- Discuss how these writings align with, challenge, or expand traditional understanding.
- Encourage openness without fear—emphasize discernment, not dismissal.
- Reinforce the foundational message: God's Spirit still speaks, and Jesus is the same.

Activity Ideas

- Open with prayer for wisdom and revelation.
- Read key scripture together and journal personal insights.
- Group discussion on what was new, surprising, or affirming.
- Invite participants to write their own question for Jesus or one of the early believers.
- Close with a moment of quiet reflection and prayer.

Teaching Outline – Part 7

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Teaching Points

- Introduce the main historical or spiritual theme for the session.
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- Close with a moment of quiet reflection and prayer.

Teaching Outline – Part 8

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- Open with prayer for wisdom and revelation.
- Read key scripture together and journal personal insights.
- Group discussion on what was new, surprising, or affirming.
- Invite participants to write their own question for Jesus or one of the early believers.
- Close with a moment of quiet reflection and prayer.

Teaching Outline – Part 9

Objective

To guide participants through ancient texts and lesser-known scriptures that reveal deeper insights into the life of Jesus, the early church, and God's unfolding plan for humanity.

Teaching Points

- Introduce the main historical or spiritual theme for the session.
- Highlight one or more texts such as the Book of Enoch, Gospel of Thomas, or Gospel of Mary.
- Discuss how these writings align with, challenge, or expand traditional understanding.
- Encourage openness without fear—emphasize discernment, not dismissal.
- Reinforce the foundational message: God's Spirit still speaks, and Jesus is the same.

Activity Ideas

- Open with prayer for wisdom and revelation.
- Read key scripture together and journal personal insights.
- Group discussion on what was new, surprising, or affirming.
- Invite participants to write their own question for Jesus or one of the early believers.
- Close with a moment of quiet reflection and prayer.

Teaching Outline – Part 10

Objective

To guide participants through ancient texts and lesser-known scriptures that reveal deeper insights into the life of Jesus, the early church, and God's unfolding plan for humanity.

Teaching Points

- Introduce the main historical or spiritual theme for the session.
- Highlight one or more texts such as the Book of Enoch, Gospel of Thomas, or Gospel of Mary.
- Discuss how these writings align with, challenge, or expand traditional understanding.
- Encourage openness without fear—emphasize discernment, not dismissal.
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Activity Ideas

- Open with prayer for wisdom and revelation.
- Read key scripture together and journal personal insights.
- Group discussion on what was new, surprising, or affirming.
- Invite participants to write their own question for Jesus or one of the early believers.
- Close with a moment of quiet reflection and prayer.

Bonus:
Brief Synopsis

Let's Explore Together – Part 1

Exploring Ancient Voices

Jeremiah 6:16 – 'Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths...'

In this session, we begin uncovering hidden spiritual writings like the Book of Enoch, the Gospel of Thomas, and the Gospel of Mary. These texts aren't replacements for Scripture—but can expand our understanding of how God has spoken throughout history. Jesus is still speaking today. This is a safe place to explore that truth.

Let's Explore Together – Part 2

The Book of Enoch

Genesis 5:24 – 'Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.'

We explore the Book of Enoch—quoted by Jude and respected by early Christians. This book offers insight into the fallen angels, prophetic visions, and the nature of God's justice and mercy. Though not in most Bibles, it enriches our understanding of biblical themes.

Let's Explore Together – Part 3

The Gospel of Thomas

Proverbs 25:2 – 'It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; to search out a matter is the glory of kings.'

The Gospel of Thomas contains 114 sayings of Jesus—some familiar, others mysterious. It invites reflection, not argument, asking us to seek truth from the Spirit. Early believers valued its depth before it was suppressed. Let's listen together for Jesus' voice in it.

Let's Explore Together – Part 4

The Gospel of Mary Magdalene

Luke 8:2-3 – 'Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out...'

Mary Magdalene's gospel reveals her as a bold disciple, not just a witness. Her account emphasizes inner vision, peace, and grace. Though dismissed by many, it may open our hearts to the softer strength of the early Church's most misunderstood woman.

Let's Explore Together – Part 5

Why These Writings Were Left Out

Luke 11:52 – 'You have taken away the key to knowledge...'

We examine how church leaders chose which books to include in Scripture and which to hide. While God's Word is trustworthy, the process was human. Learning about what was left out can bring us closer to the Spirit, not farther from the truth.

Let's Explore Together – Part 6

Faith, Fear, and the Power of Revelation

2 Timothy 1:7 – 'God has not given us a spirit of fear...'

When new truth stretches us, fear can rise. But God hasn't given us a spirit of fear. This session invites us to remain anchored in Christ, even as we explore mysteries. The Spirit leads gently, confirming what's true. Don't fear—discern.

Let's Explore Together – Part 7

Echoes from Jesus' Early Life

Luke 2:52 – 'Jesus grew in wisdom and stature...'

We know little about Jesus' youth, but early writings offer clues to how He grew in wisdom and grace. Some stories were dismissed—yet they echo truth. Jesus was fully human and fully God, and His childhood reminds us of the beauty in becoming.

Let's Explore Together - Part 8

Thomas the Twin

John 20:28-29 - 'My Lord and my God!...'

Thomas was more than a doubter—he was a seeker. Early writings call him Jesus' twin in spirit, one who understood the mystery of Christ within. This session looks at Thomas not as weak in faith, but as one who wanted to know deeply and walk closely.

Let's Explore Together - Part 9

Mary Magdalene Revisited

John 20:16-18 - 'Jesus said to her, "Mary."...'

We return to Mary—not to idolize her, but to understand her. She wasn't just delivered—she was devoted. Her role in Jesus' ministry was silenced by history, but not by heaven. In learning more about her, we learn more about discipleship.

Let's Explore Together - Part 10

You Are Invited

Revelation 3:20 - 'Here I am! I stand at the door and knock...'

This final session isn't a conclusion—it's an invitation. An invitation to keep exploring, to ask the Spirit questions, to read more deeply, and to trust that Jesus still reveals truth today. Let this be the beginning of a new chapter in your walk with God.

Bonus Workbook

The journey doesn't end here—it's just beginning.

This series was never about having all the answers. It was about daring to ask the questions. As we've explored voices once silenced, stories once hidden, and truths too sacred to be forgotten, we've opened the door to a deeper understanding of God's movement through time.

May this spark curiosity, strengthen your faith, and remind you: the more we seek, the more He reveals.

Let's keep exploring—together.

