

Group Contact Guide

For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

I CORINTHIANS 3:11



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THANK YOU!

Thank you for accepting this invaluable role as a TBI Group Contact to help others get Strong For Life. There are two types of Group Contacts, and both are acceptable. The first are confident leaders who want to use the TBI content but create their own flow. For you, this manual will provide a few ideas but seem restrictive. The other type of Group Contact got "voluntold," doesn't have a clue where to begin, and is relieved someone else has figured it all out. This manual will be very beneficial for you.

Whether you choose a freestyle or structured program, you can be confident the Holy Spirit will equip you with everything needed to fulfill the assignment. We pray you will recognize the honor of using your Godgiven gifts to help people get closer to Jesus.

In a short while, during their TBI Commencement, you will marvel at how much was accomplished through the teaching of God's Word and your willingness to serve as a TBI Group Contact. Until then, you will be there to help the students, and we are here to help you in any way.

Your TBI Team

For God is not unjust. He will not forget how hard you have worked for Him and how you have shown your love to Him by caring for other believers, as you still do.

HEB. 6:10 NLT

THE ROLE OF THE TBI GROUP CONTACT

The TBI Group Contact is the liaison between Texas Bible Institute and the TBI Group. Your main task will be to keep the calendar and classes organized so the students feel confident throughout their TBI journey. This manual has an <u>overload</u> of information you probably won't use if you are administratively gifted. For your convenience, several resources have been included in the back of this guide. Digital resources are also available in your dashboard.

One of the many benefits of the TBI Group Program is its flexibility. Students can watch the videos together or independently. The weekly classes can be thirty or sixty minutes. You can set an academic tone or party up with food. This manual provides suggestions, but ultimately, your decisions should be based on what will benefit your group.

This list of your responsibilities might appear daunting, but it will unfold naturally over several months, so there is no reason to feel overwhelmed. Two tips you should consider to ensure a smooth session are delegating someone else to assist with IT issues and appointing a TBI Moderator to lead the classes. However, some Group Contacts manage it all on their own.

TBI Group Contact Responsibilities - What do I do?

- Select which TBI program to offer: Fast Track or Semester. See p.15
- Type an information handout to give at the TBI Orientation. See p.20
- Organize the TBI Orientation. See p.22
- Assist students in creating their student profile.
- Prepare the classroom with a TV| Screen or Projector.
- Lead the group discussions or share them with a TBI Moderator. See p.28
- Send a weekly update to your students with any reminders. (optional)
- Make the TBI Commencement invitation available. See Group Dashboard
- Confirm all students have requested their diplomas.
- Organize the TBI Commencement. See p.29

TBI Group Contact Timeline - When should I do it?

Before TBI Orientation

- O Create a General Information handout for the TBI Orientation.
- O Preview the TBI Orientation and Volume 1 slides.
- O If assistance is needed, please contact TBI at least one week before Orientation.
- O Notify students to bring their "Strong-For-Life Choices," Vol.1 workbook to the TBI Orientation.

Before Your First Class

- O Remind the students to bring their current workbook and Bible to every class.
- O Confirm the use of the TV Screen or projector or any device that can display class slides.
- O Preview the Course Preview video (18 minutes) and slides. (8)

Weekly Check-In

O Consider sending an encouraging scripture and a reminder about the upcoming Course Preview as a point of accountability. (Optional)

Volume 8 Due Dates Reminders

- O All quizzes 1-8 are current.
- O Make the Commencement invitation available.
- O Begin Commencement prep.

TBI Commencement Prep

O Decisions and details can be completed in one afternoon.

Which TBI Group Pace Is Right For You? See p.15

TBI Group is available at two different paces: the Fast Track and the Semester Plan. The <u>ONLY</u> difference between them is the length of time required for completion. Both programs include the same videos, slides, workbooks, and group discussions. Both are offered with or without a midway break.

There are two options for the TBI Group program. The Fast Track program (12 weeks) is more of a Bible overview, and the Semester Program (22 weeks) dedicates more time to studying each course.

FAST TRACK (12-14 WEEKS)	SEMESTER PLAN (22-24 WEEKS)		
Pro: A Bible overview	Pro: More time for Bible study		
Con: Bible study not thorough	Con: Longer commitment		
Demographic: All ages	Demographic: All ages		
Study time: 2 hours weekly	Study time: 1 hour weekly		

Planning Your TBI Calendar *See p.15*

The flexibility of the TBI Group program will make it easy to fit your church calendar. For example, you can choose to schedule a break midway, correspond it with a holiday, or shorten the program by taking no break at all. The Commencement must be at least two weeks after the last class to allow for the diplomas to be processed.

Communication - Clear and Consistent

Providing simple and consistent communication between your students and the Group Contact requires diligence. You can determine whether a group text or email is better. For personal updates, the Group Contact should be flexible and understand the student's preferred method of communication. For example, a younger student might prefer a quick text, a busy professional might prefer an email, and a senior citizen might appreciate a phone call. However, select one method as your official mode of communication.

You are there to answer any questions and to help resolve any issues. Be prepared to repeat yourself over and over again. Everyone learns and comprehends in different ways and at various paces. People need to hear the same information at least three times before understanding it. Because of this, an announcement on a Sunday might need to be reiterated by text on Tuesday and an email on Friday. Kindness and patience in your communication style will help you and the student.

FAQ OF TBI GROUP CONTACTS

Early Decisions

Q. How much time should I designate weekly for this role?

A. Block out three hours to set things up and, afterward, approximately two hours per week.

Q. Where should we have class?

A. Any private area that fosters a group discussion. Wi-fi is needed. Tables are optional. The most common locations selected are church classrooms or homes.

Q. What day and time do you suggest?

A. Church groups often meet one hour before the Sunday service or on a Wednesday evening. Home groups might enjoy their weekly hour together on Saturdays or weeknights when their spouse can keep the kids. Whatever works best.

Q. Are we obligated to provide childcare?

A. No, but childcare is an easy strategy to increase your student headcount while recruiting.

Q. What's the difference between a session, a course, and a class?

A. A session is the entire program, ie., fall or spring session. There are ten courses (workbooks) being taught in the TBI Group program. Each course offers multiple classes.

Q. What should I do if I'm feeling overwhelmed about this role?

A. Realize that you will not need much of the included information, and your duties are spread out over months.

Q. What is the refund policy for TBI?

A. TBI has a nonrefundable, nontransferable policy. Students who discontinue the program have the option to reenroll at no charge later but will need a new session code from the Group Contact.

TBI Weekly Classes

Q. What is a typical class schedule?

A. All classes will include fellowship, group discussion, and prayer. Some classes will include the Course Preview video and slides. Most groups select a sixty-minute gathering, but a thirty-minute option could work for smaller groups of 3-5. Once you set your schedule, commit to being punctual.

30-Minute Option

9:00 am - Fellowship 9:05 Group Discussion

9:15 *Course Preview slides only

9:25 Prayer

9:30 Announcements

9:30 Dismissal

(*Watch video independently)

60-Minute Option

7:00 p.m. - Fellowship 7:05 Group Discussion 7:25 *Course Preview

7:50 Prayer

7:55 Announcements

8:00 Dismissal

(*Watch video + slides together)

Q. How long should the Group Discussion be?

A. The length of the Group Discussion will fluctuate from 15 - 30 minutes depending on whether that specific class includes the video or slides. The topic is always a review of the previous chapter.

Q. Who teaches the class?

A. The TBI Group program functions beautifully with no teacher. The Group Contact and the TBI Moderator oversee the weekly group gathering but are not TBI teachers. They host the hour while facilitating the provided content, such as slides, course highlights, and group discussion questions.

Q. Are the Group Contact and TBI Moderator two different people?

A. This is your choice. The moderator can be you, another person, or a rotating team. The Group Contact needs to be organized, but the TBI Moderator needs to be spiritually respected and know how to lead a group discussion while resisting the temptation to teach.

Q. When will the students read and work through their workbooks?

A. Students work independently at their own pace throughout the week. Each chapter can be completed in approximately fifteen minutes.

Q. What is included in the Course Preview?

A. Students will enjoy an introductory video by TBI President Rachel Burchfield (*Approx.18 minutes*) and informative slides (8) on the first day of each course.

Q. What are the "Prayer and Share" slides?

A. Halfway through the program, five Prayer and Share slides will emphasize the three keys for remaining Strong For Life: Bible reading habits, biblical foundations, and healthy relationships.

O. What if students miss several classes?

A. The TBI diploma is based on passing the ten quizzes, not attendance. Taking attendance is optional.

Q. Why is the eighth course, Volume 8, significant?

A. Volume 8 corresponds with a suggested due date week for three items: 1) Confirm all student quizzes (1-8) are current 2) Make the Commencement invitation available. 3) Begin Commencement prep. The TBI Headquarters does not need a Vol. 1-8 quiz update.

ARE YOU READY?	
☐ Have you chosen your meeting location?	
☐ Have you chosen the day and time?	
☐ Have you decided which program? (Fast Track or Semester Plan)	
Are your TBI dates confirmed with your church and personal calendar?	
☐ Have you designated a TBI Moderator?	
☐ Is someone IT-savvy ready to assist?	
☐ Do you have the TV Screen Projector ready?	
☐ Have you selected your official mode of communication?	
☐ Are you trusting the Holy Spirit to guide you?	

HOSTING A TBI ORIENTATION

See p.22

TBI Orientation is an exciting time filled with nervous and excited students. Open with prayer and confidence that God will beautifully use you to blend a group of strangers into friends on the same team. Team TBI. Take a moment to address publicly what your students might be wondering.

- "How am I going to find time to do this?"
- "Taking a quiz on a computer sounds intimidating."
- "I hope they don't make me pray out loud."
- "I don't belong here. Everyone else understands their Bible.
- I'm too old for this. Why did I even sign up?

You might decide to slow down and give some emotional assurance before sharing a long list of details. You can easily catch up later.

The TBI Orientation is approximately a 40-minute gathering, and you might want to provide refreshments and help the students settle down and get to know each other.





MAKE EVERY CLASS GREAT

The weekly classes are a rotating combination of group discussions, videos, slides, and personal prayer requests. As long as you are progressing through the workbooks, the format is flexible, and you can adjust as needed.

Fast Facts About The Class Format

- TBI Group Program = 60% independent study + 40% weekly meetings
- Each course workbook has eight chapters.
- Fast Track = 8 chapters per week, one workbook per week = 2-3 hours of independent study
- Semester Plan = 4 chapters per week, two courses per month = 90 minutes weekly of independent study
- The Group Discussions look back to previous chapters and range from 15-30 minutes.
- The Course Previews look <u>ahead</u> and include the video and slides for approximately 25 minutes.
- Every Class #1 will include the Course Preview video and slides.
- The halfway class includes the "Prayer & Share" slides with a shorter Group Discussion.

Allow The Holy Spirit To Lead

You can depend on the Holy Spirit's wisdom to deal with recurring issues such as late-comers, dominating personalities, or emotional venting. These are Bible classes, not counseling sessions. At the same time, the Lord might lead you to stay on one question for the entire Group Discussion. If a student reveals a personal need, you can ask someone to pray for them *right then* or make a mental note to pray for him or her during the Prayer Time.

Four Tips For Great Classes

- Arrive fifteen minutes early to handle any unexpected issues.
- · Background music before and after
- Have a punctual opening and closing time.

 People can stay later, but you and others need permission to leave.

Prepping For Your First Class See p.16, 22

Your first gathering will be the TBI Orientation with a pre-written narration that corresponds with the sixteen PowerPoints. There is no video needed for the TBI Orientation.

Your second gathering will be your first official class, and the students will enjoy a Course Preview, which includes an introductory video (18 min.) and eight slides with captions. There is no prewritten narration needed because the captions can be read aloud and clearly understood. You can decide whether to invite comments on the Course Preview slides or continue on. Relax. It will take you a few classes to get into a rhythm. You've got this!



HOW TO LEAD GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Much of the TBI Group program revolves around group discussions due to the many benefits that occur in that social dynamic. The objective is to help the students grow in God by learning from one another.

God created us to be connected to others. There are fifty-nine "one-anothers" in the New Testament. Love one another. Bear with one another. Forgive one another, and so forth. Your TBI Group Discussions will add a few more that list: Listen to one another. Learn from one another. Pray for one another. Don't underestimate the value of these gatherings, and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in developing each student's confidence in walking with their God.

By Week 3, set some ground rules! God has gathered each student to support growth in God and the completion of the workbooks. They are not counseling sessions, venting platforms, gossip sessions, or political debates. Each week's focus should be the completed workbook chapters. A wise moderator will navigate the discussion in a way that supports that objective. Leading a group discussion well is a skill you can develop.

Group Discussion Questions

- What do you hope to learn from this course?
- What was your favorite chapter and why?
- What section do you need to understand more?
- How does this chapter help your daily life?

KEEP YOUR PASTOR UPDATED

Pastors are to be commended for their willingness to host Texas Bible Institute at their church. Although it was designed to strengthen the local church, they have plenty to manage without one more commitment to an already busy calendar. Consider sending him TBI photos and updates periodically. It will keep you accountable to his leadership and encourage him greatly.

TECHNOLOGICAL ISSUES

Most of the program involves working and writing through the ten enjoyable TBI workbooks. Each student will receive custom and individual numerical access via e-mail to create an online student profile. This is where students will access their online TBI dashboard, where they can watch each workbook's short, inspirational corresponding video and complete a simple, multiple-choice quiz at the end of each course. Students may also view their quiz grades by logging into their TBI online dashboard.

Setting Up Their Student Profile

Student profiles are automatically created after completing their sign-up process and receiving payment. An e-mail from the TBI Administrative Office will be sent to the address used in the sign-up process with a six-digit access code. This code will be utilized to gain access to their student dashboard. Most students will be able to follow these instructions. Others might need some assistance either over the phone or in person. The Group Contact should know how to create an online profile to help others.

Many technical "issues or errors" can be prevented by the Group Contact or IT Assistant, who reviews the steps with the student. For any other technical issues beyond that, the Group Contact may contact TBI for assistance.

Tech Troubleshooting

- **Students can't see the entirety of the screen on their phone.** Viewing it on a bigger screen, like a computer or laptop helps.
- **Student is using an older device.** We suggest using the newest device they have available.
- **My browser doesn't support the program.** If it doesn't work on Safari, try Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge. Some browsers, over others, are better supported by specific devices. We suggest Google Chrome.
- **Students cannot hear the videos.** Make sure the volume on the device is turned up and activated. Try viewing it on a different device or browser.
- **My program is slow or gets stuck.** Try checking the network wifi settings, restarting, or updating your device.
- **My dashboard doesn't show the videos.** Usually, when a dashboard is not showing any part of the program, like videos or quizzes, it can be because a student missed a step in the email instructions when creating the profile. Walk through the steps again with them. If the issue persists after you've taken all the steps, contact TBI, and we'll be happy to help.
- I don't have a computer. Can I still do TBI? YES, if you can access it from your phone or from the computer of a family member or friend. As a Group Contact, consider making a laptop available at your church at certain times throughout the week or the weekend for anyone who has tech issues to log on and complete their guiz.

Don't let the online portion intimidate or discourage students from the final goal. Octogenarians have completed this course with the help of an awesome Group Contact who took the time to help them step-by-step.

TBI COMMENCEMENT IS COMING See p.29

- Q. Do you recommend hosting a TBI Commencement even if the class is a small group?
- **A.** Yes, absolutely. A TBI Group in a church can incorporate it into a Sunday morning service. Other TBI Groups can create a meaningful event at a restaurant or home. Adjust the length and formality as needed, but it will be inspiring to all
- Q. When should a TBI Commencement be scheduled?
- **A.** You can set your Commencement date after all students in your group have requested their diplomas. With the mailing process being unpredictable, plan on two or three weeks from the last student's diploma request. *Important! Diploma packets for Commencements are not available from December 23 January 17.*
- **Q.** Why should I encourage students to send the Commencement invitation to their family and friends?
- **A.** The Group Contact will have access to an invitation on the dashboard for the students to email to their friends and family. Beyond their deserved celebration of completion, it will become an evangelistic outreach for their unchurched friends and introduce many to your church.
- Q. What is the Group Contact's role regarding diplomas?
- **A.** After passing all ten quizzes, the <u>student</u> is responsible for requesting their diploma online through their TBI Dashboard. Stay close to the TBI Dashboard to **confirm all students have requested their diplomas ASAP**, lest one procrastinating student delays the shipment. Once all diplomas have been entered into the system, the Group Contact will confirm the completion of the session, and we will print and mail all diplomas before your selected Commencement date.
- Q. Where will the diplomas be mailed?
- **A.** Diplomas mailed in the continental United States will arrive by Priority Mail with USPS in one package to the Group Host location with "Attn. TBI Group Contact" printed on the label.
- **Q.** What if a name is misspelled on a diploma?
- **A.** The diploma will be printed exactly as the student submits it, so Texas Bible Institute is not responsible for misspelled names. A corrected diploma can be obtained for an additional \$25 fee at a later date upon request.
- Q. What's the secret to a Group Contact's strong finish?
- **A.** Staying organized with the students' progress and quiz completions <u>throughout</u> the session will help your end-of-term duties go smoothly. Select an "all quizzes due" date on your Volume Eight week and remind students often.
- Q. How do I respond to that procrastinating student who won't finish his quiz #10?
- **A.** Announce periodically that "All quizzes need to be completed by _____ (date) or you will not be able to graduate." Support them in any way possible, but, you have a responsibility to the other students to keep their Commencement date. Diplomas will not be processed and mailed until all quizzes have been completed. This is a group program, so the TBI Administrative Office will not send a "late diploma" over the next few weeks.

Finish Big! Finish Strong!

Additional ideas for a TBI Commencement not mentioned on the resource include:

- Encourage graduates to wear their Sunday best.
- Purchase or rent caps and gowns.
- Decorate your church or venue with TBI red.
- Create a PowerPoint photo of each student with their one-sentence caption about TBI
- Include the church leadership team to anoint graduates with oil.
- Include TBI Alums from your congregation in the program.
- A 'Thank You' gift for the TBI Group Contact
- Enjoy a private or church-wide reception with refreshments.

Please upload a group photo holding their diplomas to your Group Dashboard in the commencement settings.





TBI GROUP CONTACTS SPEAK OUT

Watching our group help each other was such a blessing. We became a family.

My first thought was, "What did I get myself into?" My last thought was, "Thank God for TBI."

Being a TBI Group Contact was a genuine blessing.

I was busy at the beginning and end of the session, but the middle was simple.

I've organized soccer teams, so why wouldn't I organize a program to help people get Strong For Life?

The TBI Guide was a lot of reading, but they made it simple. All I had to do was copy and paste.

TBI GROUP ALUMNI SPEAK OUT

I have been a Christian for decades, but TBI taught many practical ways to follow Jesus.

TBI was like a Mega Vitamin B! I am 85 years old, and thank God for a patient TBI Group Contact. She taught me some computer tips.

TBI has helped me to forgive, and let go of my past. I am a single dad raising three great kids.

God's love changed my life through TBI, and I learned how to recognize God's voice.

Our TBI Group had a 14-year-old homeschooler, a new believer, a lawyer, a mother-daughter team, and three octogenarians.

I absolutely loved the program and will never stop reviewing it and sharing what I experienced. TBI for me was like a catapult. TBI will always remainat the forefront of my ministry because it is foundational. I think every Christian should go through this.

Chris C.

Washington Evangelist and Outreach Coordinator

RESOURCES



PLANNING YOUR CALENDAR AND CLASSES

TBI Group offers one program at two different paces: the Fast Track or the Semester Plan. The ONLY difference between these two options is the length of time and personal study time required for completion. Both programs include the same videos, slides, workbooks, and group discussions. Both programs have the flexibility to adjust to your church calendar. Both programs include the option to add a midway break.

To get started, you only need to answer two questions! Then, copy and paste the preplanned class calendar corresponding to your selection. The next few pages include those options.

Two Questions

- 1. Which program (length) do you prefer?
 - Fast Track (12 or 14 weeks)
 - Semester Plan (24 weeks)
- 2. Do you prefer a midway break?

If you are still undecided, we recommend the Fast Track-2 option. It has been our experience that most busy people prefer a quick Bible overview rather than a longer, thorough Bible school experience. Request your church's master calendar to determine the best time for a weekly class. Some TBI Group Contacts select the best date for a TBI Commencement first and count backward.

Option #1: FAST TRACK - 1

10 Weeks of Classes | 12 Weeks Total | No break

Option #2: FAST TRACK - 2

11 Weeks of Classes | 14 Weeks Total | Midway break

Option #3 SEMESTER PLAN - 1

22 weeks of classes | 24 weeks total | No midway break

Option #4 SEMESTER PLAN -2

21 weeks of classes | 24 weeks total | Midway break

MASTER TBI PROGRAM CHARTS WEEK-BY-WEEK

FAST TRACK Option #1 10 Weeks of Classes | 12 Weeks Total | No Break

WEEK	Gr. Discussion	Course Preview	Prayer	Homework Announcements
WEEK 1	Why did you enroll?	TBI Orientation -16 slides Vol. 1 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol.1 Ch. Summary V1 Quiz
WEEK 2	Vol. 1 Discussion	Vol. 2 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 2 Ch. Summary V2 Quiz
WEEK 3	Vol. 2 Discussion	Vol. 3 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 3 Ch. Summary V3 Quiz
WEEK 4	Vol. 3 Discussion	Vol. 4 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 4 Ch. Summary V4 Quiz
WEEK 5	Vol. 4 Discussion	Vol. 5 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 5 Ch. Summary V5 Quiz
WEEK 6	Prayer & Share	Vol. 6 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 6 Ch. Summary V6 Quiz
WEEK 7	Vol. 6 Discussion	Vol. 7 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 7 Ch. Summary V7 Quiz
WEEK 8	Vol. 7 Discussion	Vol. 8 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 8 All quizzes current Commencement Invitations
WEEK 9	Vol. 8 Discussion	Vol. 9 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 9 Ch. Summary V9 Quiz
WEEK 10	Vol. 9 Discussion	Vol. 10 CP Give Party + Com. Info Vol. 10 Quiz Request diploma ASAP		
WEEK 11	Vol. 10 Discussion (Commencement Re	Opt. Graduation Party Testimonies Thank Yous ehearsal		
WEEK 12	Commencement here or later	Please upload a group photo holding their diplomas to your Group Dashboard in the Commencement settings.		

For Fast Track #1 Only:

*Week 1 will be packed. TBI Orientation will have 16 slides. Then, Vol. 1 Course Preview will have a video and 8 slides. It will settle down by Week 2. Group Discussion should be 10 minutes, Orientation - 20 minutes, Course Preview 25 minutes.



MASTER TBI PROGRAM CHARTS WEEK-BY-WEEK

FAST TRACK Option #2 11 Weeks of Classes | 14 Weeks Total | Midway Break

WEEK	Gr. Discussion	Course Preview	Prayer	Homework Announcements
WEEK 1	Why did you enroll?	TBI Orientation 16 slides, no video	Prayer	Find a promise for your TBI Session
WEEK 2	Your TBI Promise	Vol. 1 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 1 Ch. Summary V1 Quiz
WEEK 3	Vol. 1 Discussion	Vol. 2 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 2 Ch. Summary V2 Quiz
WEEK 4	Vol. 2 Discussion	Vol. 3 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 3 Ch. Summary V3 Quiz
WEEK 5	Vol. 3 Discussion	Vol. 4 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 4 Ch. Summary V4 Quiz
WEEK 6	Vol. 4 Discussion	Vol. 5 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 5 Ch. Summary V5 Quiz
WEEK 7	MIDWAY BREAK			
WEEK 8	Prayer & Share	Vol. 6 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 6 Ch. Summary V6 Quiz
WEEK 9	Vol. 6 Discussion	Vol. 7 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 7 Ch. Summary V7 Quiz
WEEK 10	Vol. 7 Discussion	Vol. 8 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 8 V8 Quiz All quizzes current Commencement invitations
WEEK 11	Vol. 8 Discussion	Vol. 9 Course Preview	Prayer	Read Vol. 9 Ch. Summary V9 Quiz
WEEK 12	Vol. 9 Discussion	Vol. 10 CP - Give party + Com. Info Vol. 10 Quiz Request diploma asap		
WEEK 13		Discussion Opt. Graduation Party Testimonies Thank Yous encement Rehearsal		
WEEK 14	Commencement here or later	Please upload a group photo holding their diplomas to your Group Dashboard in the Commencement settings.		

In case you are wondering ...

The Group Discussion reviews the previous chapter for 15 - 30 minutes.

The Course Preview is the video and slides shown on the first day of each course for 25 minutes.

WE.

The Prayer & Share is a mid-course discussion with five slides about Foundations For Life.

MASTER TBI PROGRAM CHARTS WEEK-BY-WEEK

SEMESTER PLAN Option #1 22 Weeks of Classes | 24 Weeks Total | No Midway Break

WEEK	Gr. Discussion	Course Preview	Prayer	Homework Announcements
WEEK 1	Why did you enroll?	TBI Orientation 16 slides, no video	Prayer	Find a Bible promise for your TBI Session
WEEK 2	Your TBI Promise	Vol. 1 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 1, Ch. 1-4 Focus on Chapter Summary
WEEK 3	Vol. 1, Ch.1-4		Prayer	Ch. 5-8 Chapter Summary V1 Quiz
WEEK 4	1 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 2 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 2, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary
WEEK 5	2 Ch. 1-4			Ch. 5-8 Chapter Summary V2 Quiz
WEEK 6	2 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 3 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 3, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary
WEEK 7	2 Ch. 5-8			Ch. 5-8 Chapter Summary V 3Quiz
WEEK 8	3 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 4 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 4, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary
WEEK 9	4 Ch. 1-4		Prayer	Ch. 5-8 Chapter Summary V4 Quiz
WEEK 10	4 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 5 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 5, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary
WEEK 11	5 Ch. 1-4	Prayer & Share	Prayer	Ch. 5-8 Chapter Summary V5 Quiz
WEEK 12	5 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 6 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 6, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary
WEEK 13	6 Ch. 1-4			Ch. 5-8 V6 Quiz
WEEK 14	6 Ch.5-8	Vol. 7 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 7, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary
WEEK 15	7 Ch.1-4		Prayer Ch. 5-8 V7 Quiz	
WEEK 16	7 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 8 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 7, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary All quizzes current
WEEK 17	8 Ch. 1-4		Prayer	Ch. 5-8 V8 Quiz Commencement Invitations
WEEK 18	8 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 9 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 9, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary
WEEK 19	9 Ch. 1-4		Prayer	Ch. 5-8 V9 Quiz
WEEK 20	9 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 10 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 10, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary
WEEK 21	10 Ch. 1-4		Prayer Ch. 5-8 V10 Quiz	
WEEK 22	10 Ch. 5 -8	Give info about TBI Party and Commencement Request diploma ASAP		
WEEK 23	TBI Party + Testimo	Party + Testimonies + Thank Yous + Commencement rehearsal		
WEEK 24	TBI Commence- ment here or later			

Draw a big "X" on the three charts you will not be using.

MASTER TBI PROGRAM CHARTS WEEK-BY-WEEK

SEMESTER PLAN Option #2 21 Weeks of Classes | 24 Weeks Total | Midway Break

WEEK	Gr. Discussion	Course Preview	Prayer	Homework Announcements	
WEEK 1	Group Survey	TBI Orientation 16 slides, no video	Preview	Find a Bible promise for your TBI Session	
WEEK 2	Your TBI Promise	Vol. 1 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 1, Ch. 1-4 Focus on Chapter Summary	
WEEK 3	Vol. 1, Ch. 1-4		Prayer	Ch. 5-8 V1 Quiz	
WEEK 4	1 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 2 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 2, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary	
WEEK 5	2 Ch. 1-4			Ch. 5-8 V2 Quiz	
WEEK 6	2 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 3 Course Preview		Vol. 3, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary	
WEEK 7	3 Ch. 1-4			Ch. 5-8 V3 Quiz	
WEEK 8	3 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 4 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 4, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary	
WEEK 9	4 Ch. 1-4		Prayer	Ch. 5-8 V4 Quiz	
WEEK 10	4 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 5 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 5, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary	
WEEK 11	5 Ch. 1-4	Prayer & Share Slides		Ch. 5-8 V5 Quiz	
WEEK 12	5 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 6 Course Preview		Vol. 6, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary	
WEEK 13	MIDWAY BREAK				
WEEK 14	6 Ch. 1-4			Ch. 5-8 V6 Quiz	
WEEK 15	6 Ch.5-8	Vol. 7 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 7, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary	
WEEK 16	7 Ch.1-4		Prayer	Ch. 5-8 V7 Quiz	
WEEK 17	7 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 8 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 8, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary Commencement Invitations	
WEEK 18	8 Ch. 1-4		Prayer	Ch. 5-8 V8 Quiz All quizzes current	
WEEK 19	8 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 9 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 9, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary	
WEEK 20	9 Ch. 1-4		Prayer	Ch. 5-8 V9 Quiz	
WEEK 21	9 Ch. 5-8	Vol. 10 Course Preview	Prayer	Vol. 10, Ch. 1-4 Chapter Summary	
WEEK 22	10 Ch. 1-4	Prayer Ch. 5-8 V10 Quiz Request diploma ASAP			
WEEK 23	10 Ch. 5 -8 Opt.	TBI Party + Testimonies + Thank Yous, Commencement Rehearsal			
WEEK 24	TBI Commence- ment here or later				



GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of TBI Program: FAST TRACK #1 (10 weeks of classes, 12 weeks total)

Sample - Not Program Specific

Location: The Believer's North S Day and Class Time: Sundays at		
Information For Your Session		
// Volume 1	Strong-For-Life Choices	
// Volume 2	Following Jesus	
// Volume 3	Bible Basics	
// Volume 4	Who You Are In Christ	
// Volume 5	Recognizing God's Voice	
// Volume 6	God's Great Love	
// Volume 7	How To Study Your Bible	
// Volume 8 Quizzes 1-8 are due. TBI	Strong-For-Life Relationships Commencement invitations are online.	
// Volume 9	Faith Principles	
// Volume 10 Discove All quizzes complete? Re	ering God's Will equest your diploma online.	
// Group Gathering: Cong	gratulate & Celebrate	
/ TBI Commencement -	Proper Attire Requested	
Pray for your TBI Group Contac	ct	 Phone
Request your TRI Christian Life	Name Studies diploma by	
Request your 152 cm stant 2	Date	·
The TBI Group photo will be im	nmediately after Commencement	
My personal TRI Celebration re	eward is	On stage, foyer, etc.
my personal real cerearacters.	A trip, fav restaurant, etc.	·

COMMON STUDENT TECHNICAL ISSUES

Don't let the online portion intimidate or discourage you from the final goal. Octogenarians have completed this course with the help of an awesome Group Contact and classmates who took the time to help them step-by-step.

I can't hear the videos.

Make sure the volume on the device is turned up and activated. Try viewing it on a different device or browser.

My browser doesn't support the program.

If it doesn't work on Safari, try Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge. Some browsers, over others, are better supported by specific devices.

My dashboard doesn't show the videos.

Usually, when a dashboard is not showing any part of the program, like videos or quizzes, it can be because a student missed a step in the email instructions when creating the profile. Walk through the steps again with them. If the issue persists after you've taken all the steps, contact TBI, and we'll be happy to help.

My program is slow or gets stuck.

Try checking the network wifi settings, restarting or updating your device.

• I don't have a computer. Can I still do TBI?

Yes, if you can access it from your phone or from the computer of a family member or friend. Ask your Group Contact to consider making a laptop available at your church at certain times for anyone who has tech issues, to log on and complete their quiz.

Why am I making grades higher than 100 on my quiz?

If you change an answer without starting over, you will accumulate points. Close it out and begin a new quiz.

FAQ ABOUT TEXAS BIBLE INSTITUTE

- Q. Are guests or children allowed to sit in a class?
- A. To be considerate to your classmates, guests or children are not recommended.
- Q. What's the best tip to do well during TBI?
- A. Set a specific time daily to study and stay current with your quizzes.
- Q. Is attendance mandatory? My job might prevent me from attending.
- A. Students receive their diplomas based on passing ten quizzes, not attendance.

A Forty-Minute Introduction

What you need:

- TV or projector
- General Information handout
- Read through the narration privately before this meeting.

Students should bring:

- "Strong-For-Life Choices," Vol. 1 workbook
- Snacks are optional, but a fun atmosphere is a great way to begin.

Suggestions for a forty-minute TBI Orientation:

- Open in prayer, introduce yourself, and give some introductory remarks. (5 min.)
- Let the students introduce themselves and share why they enrolled. (10 min.)
- Distribute the General Information handout and explain a few main points. (10 min.)
- Prepare them for sixteen slides and narration. (15 min.)

Welcome to Texas Bible Institute! Something good is about to happen to you.

Slide #2

Congratulations are in order! You've made a quality choice to get stronger in the Lord, and He has a promise for you today.

"Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you."Jms. 4:8

Slide #3

Learning a little about the history of Texas Bible Institute will help you understand the many stories recorded in your workbooks. In 1990, Pastor Tommy Burchfield was focused on building Country Camp in Texas, where thousands of churches gathered, and campers trusted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. While preaching in Lagos, Nigeria, the Lord told him to begin TBI and appoint his wife to serve as the President. She was four months pregnant with two young sons. God's timing isn't always convenient, is it?

Slide #4

Texas Bible Institute teaches disciples of Jesus Christ the foundations for life as taught in God's Word, the Bible. Strong foundations are essential. Jesus said so in Luke 6:47.

Slide #5

Texas Bible Institute's first 32 years was an in-person program exclusively for young adults ages 17-25. Approximately 6,000 students came from 42 nations to a little town in Texas to become Strong For Life.

When the Lord whispers a promise to you, hold on to it! He told the Burchfields, "I'm sending you many sons and many daughters," and they just kept coming and coming.

Slide #7

God opened the door for international students to come and be trained in God's Word through TBI's scholarship program. Most of them have returned to their nations to give the hope of the gospel to their beautiful people. Many could come, but there were many more who could not.

Slide #8

The next chapter of TBI was created for those who cannot move to Columbus, Texas, but desire to find their purpose in God. Welcome to The online TBI Global Program, which has been expanded to reach individuals of all ages and at all stages of life. The TBI Group program is an additional benefit for those desiring to study God's Word as a group.

Slide #9

Meet the amazing friends from the First Inaugural TBI Group of online graduates. During their four months, a lot of "life" happened, and their prayers for each other kept them strong. Their ages ranged from 14 - 85. Get your smile ready. It won't be long before you will take your TBI Commencement photo.

Slide #10

Well, enough of these praise reports about other people. It's your turn. Before you begin, it's fun to think of a special way you might want to celebrate when you graduate. Perhaps a dinner party at your favorite restaurant? A new pair of shoes? Hey, maybe a trip! Okay, pull out your workbook, and let's get started.

These last six slides will give you some important details. At the beginning of each course, you will watch the Course Preview Video, which is approximately 18 minutes, and then begin one of your ten workbooks. Now, let's get you familiar with the format of your workbooks.

First, turn to the Roman numeral page IV called "What We Believe." Do you see those navy boxes? These "Big Four" navy blocks will become your spiritual backbone. (pause)

The Table of Contents is next. Don't rush past it. Read it to gain an overview of the course.

Next are eight power-packed chapters, and you'll finish with the Addendum. Turn to page 65, and you'll find the Answer Key, which will always be located on the first page of the Addendum. Speaking of the Addendum, you'll love the supplemental items and the Go-To-Reference Tools, also in the back of your workbook.

Students can complete each workbook in 2-3 hours despite the packed content. Yes, just 2-3 hours.

Slide #12

Now that you're familiar with the workbook, let's examine the structure of one chapter because they are all the same. Turn to page 1 for the chapter's cover page and teaser. (pause)

Turn to page 2 for the chapter's foundational scriptures titled "Your Word is Truth." You might want to highlight them in your Bible. (pause)

Pages 3 through 6 provide four teaching pages. (pause)

Page 7 is the Chapter Summary, which will be your most important page. Remember that. There are two more items in each chapter to mention.

Page 8 is an optional devotional if you have time. Also, flip back to page 3 and look at the navy triangle at the bottom. Do you see it? These navy triangles are filled with trivia, stats, and bios throughout your workbooks but are not included in the quizzes. They are just extra goodies for anyone interested. And that, my friends, explains the structure of each chapter.

W.

When you finish the workbook, it's time to take a quiz. Relax. **Every quiz has 25** multiple-choice questions, there is no time limit, and it is an open-book quiz. The Chapter Summary page will be your friend. Also, let me give you a heads-up about a tech topic. We know you're going to ask this question. "Can I change my answer after I've selected one?" If you're taking the quiz and want to change your answer, yes, you can change your answer, but you must start the quiz over again to change it, so hopefully, you'll need to change #3 instead of #24.

Slide #14

We're almost finished, but you might want to pull your phone out and take a picture of these last three slides. (pause) That was a lot of information, so here are the five most important things to remember:

#1 Each workbook will take 2-3 hours to complete.

#2 The Answer Key is in the Addendum.

#3 The Chapter Summary will prepare you for the quiz.

#4 If you're having technical difficulties, find a tech-inclined friend or your TBI Group Contact

#5 Who's bringing the cookies?

Slide #15

For those who struggled through school or have been out for a long time, here are some powerful promises just for you. Our first inaugural TBI Group had several students who had been out of school for forty-five years. They did just fine, and so will you.

Slide #16

In a short while, you and your friends will participate in a meaningful Commencement and receive your diploma in Christian Life Studies. You'll want to invite your friends and family to celebrate with you, and that is when you'll realize, "Wow! I did it! I am officially a graduate of Texas Bible Institute." Many people are praying for you. Thank you for your time. This concludes your TBI Orientation.

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CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Closing Announcements:
Bring your current workbook and Bible to every class.
Let me know if you need any help setting up your student profile.
Our next class will be ______.





LEADING A GROUP DISCUSSION

The benefits of a group discussion are plentiful when an insightful moderator navigates it. What do they do? They talk as little as possible. They guide through others. They realize that most people will not share beyond a shallow level until they are secure of being heard. Really heard. They know that when participants finally open up, the best reply is God's Word, not opinions, free advice, or personal experiences. It's a skill that you can develop with practice.

The TBI Moderator's Objective

To create a loving atmosphere that supports growing in God's Word and trusting Him as our Father by listening and learning from one another.

- 1. Begin Group Discussion with prayer and introductory thoughts. (Don't preach!)
- 2. Frequently remind them, "We are here to grow in God. We need each other."
- 3. Your objective is to blend personalities until everyone is comfortable sharing their thoughts.
- 4. If a few dominate the discussion, simply say, "Let's hear from some others for a while."
- 5. Involve quieter ones by asking their opinion, not a "yes or no" question.
- 6. Navigate the conversation back to the objective by changing the topic or asking a question.
- 7. Deal with disagreements by interrupting with, "That would be a good discussion for another time, but we are here to get through this workbook together." Correcting someone is not recommended.
- 8. Here's a great prayer: "Holy Spirit, this discussion isn't going right. Help me get it back on track."
- 9. If a student reveals a need, you may ask someone to pray *right then,* or make a mental note to pray for her during the prayer time.
- 10. Remind them to respect one another by keeping personal discussions confidential.

Questions To Foster Discussion

- Highs and Lows Ask someone to describe their week. What was their "high" moment and "low" moment?
- What part of this week's reading inspires you the most?
- What part was confusing or difficult to accept?
- Share a moment when you have previously experienced this.
- Does knowing God as our Father make these chapters clearer or easier?

You have succeeded if the students leave each class being heard and inspired to grow in God.





HOSTING A TEXAS BIBLE INSTITUTE COMMENCEMENT

What's Needed:

- A six-foot table on the stage for diplomas
- · TBI tablecloth or solid navy, red, or white covering
- · Reserved chairs on the front row for the graduates
- · Reserved seats for the graduates' guests
- Two microphones
- TBI PowerPoint
- Three people on the stage: The MC, pastor, diploma assistant.
- A suggested script is included on p. 30-31.
- · Two ushers to help the ladies up and down the stairs
- Photographer and Videographer (Optional)
- Musical selections and official tone of the script can be revised.
- Each diploma comes with a protective cardstock cover.

On the next page, please find a suggested twenty-minute presentation for twelve students. Additional time should be considered to accommodate larger graduating classes. A rehearsal is recommended and can be finished in thirty minutes by presetting tape on the floor as a marker for each student as they exit the stage. Request church attire.

Texas Bible Institute Commencement

Opening Song Praise and Worship Team

Welcome [MC or Church Leader]

Hello. We have gathered to celebrate the dedication of twelve special students as they have completed the requirements set forth by Texas Bible Institute. This is a celebration, not a starchy event, so let's warmly welcome our special guests. I present to you the candidates for graduation from Texas Bible Institute.

[Congregation is clapping, but remain seated.]

Processional

"Pomps and Circumstances" by Edward Elgar

[Students walk down the aisle alphabetically by last name to their reserved seats but remain standing until all have arrived.]

Opening Remarks [MC or Church Leader]

Hello, TBI students, soon-to-be TBI Alumni! You are surrounded by friends and family today, and we are all rejoicing over what today represents. Way to go! Let's remember why we have gathered as I read this powerful promise from God's Word.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. Jn. 3:16

You may be seated.

Texas Bible Institute History

Texas Bible Institute was founded in 1990 by Pastors Tommy and Rachel Burchfield of Burchfield Ministries International in Columbus, Texas. The purpose of this Bible School program is to create a love for God's Word and teach the biblical foundations needed to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

The importance of a firm foundation is seen throughout Scripture. In Luke 6, Jesus told us to build our lives upon the Rock so we would be storm-proof. Not storm-free, but storm-proof. Did you know that Jesus is that Rock? The Apostle Paul explained in I Corinthians 3:11 that Jesus Christ is the only foundation worth building our lives upon. Let's all renew our hearts today to let God's Word remain the guiding light and foundation of our lives. Amen?

We would like to turn our attention, for a moment, towards the 6,000 TBI Alumni who have been shining for the Lord all over the world for over three decades. If there are any TBI Alum with us today, or you're related to a TBI Alum, would you please stand and remain standing while _____ comes to pray for you and your TBI family. TBI Alumni now represent 39 states and 42 nations and are serving the Lord in every possible strata of society. They need our prayers, and our prayers make a difference.

Prayer for TBI Alums [Prayer Leader or TBI Alum prays]

Texas Bible Institute Commencement

Words of Thanks | TBI Group Survey [Optional]

[This is a brief moment for the Group Contact to say thank you to those who have assisted her/him and share some interesting facts about a few students such as "she works two jobs and still made time for TBI, he missed a lot of class due to travel, but still passed every quiz."]

Student Testimonies [Optional]

Select a few to share "What Jesus taught me through TBI."

Diploma Prep [MC or Church Leader]

"Will the candidates for graduation please prepare for the conferral of diplomas."

[Background music begins.TBI used "Pomp and Circumstances" again.]

[All students will walk towards the side of the stage and remain there until their name is called.]

Move the TBI diploma table to center stage.
Move the pulpit to stage left for the MC.
The pastor will stand in front of the table.
The assistant stands behind the table.
Two ushers approach each side of the stage
Background music is optional

Conferring of Diplomas [MC | Pastor | Table assistant]

[The MC will call out each student's name as they walk from stage left to right. The assistant will hand the closed diploma to the pastor, who will shake right hands as he gives the diploma with his left hand. Upon exiting the stage, it is recommended to have the students stand in the altar area facing the congregation and display their diplomas while the other students eventually join them.] Music stops.

Closing Remarks and Prayer of Blessing [Pastor]

Students, please turn towards me and close your diplomas as I release a Blessing over you."

[The pastor gives closing remarks and prays.]

MC: Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my distinct pleasure to present to you the Texas Bible Institute graduates.

[Recessional music of choice begins. Students are still standing in front of the congregation. They will exit to the music.]

Recessional - "Hallelujah Chorus" By George Frideric Handel

MC: [Praise Team enters the stage]

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We are all inspired by the faith of these graduates.

Please stand as we close (or continue with our service) with a song of celebration. [Either the graduates will return to sit with their families for the remainder of the service or be invited to return for a group photo before the reception.]

[Announcements- Group photo, TBI Reception]

Tip! Organize a group photo immediately after the service. People scatter quickly.

After you've set your status to "Complete," please upload a group photo to your TBI Dashboard in the Commencement settings.

Well done, thou good and faithful TBI Group Contact!





THE DISCIPLESHIP PROGRAM

THE FOUNDATIONS-FOR-LIFE CURRICULUM - PART ONE

Strong-For-Life Choices, Vol. 1

Biblical decision making begins with a Christian worldview.

Following Jesus, Vol. 2

Explore the adventures and characteristics of discipleship.

Bible Basics, Vol. 3

Learn the structure and love story of our Father and His family.

Who We Are In Christ, Vol. 4

The overcoming lifestyle belongs to those who are in Christ.

Recognizing God's Voice, Vol. 5

Simple ways to increase the volume of God's voice.

THE FOUNDATIONS-FOR-LIFE CURRICULUM - PART TWO

God's Great Love, Vol. 6

Receive emotional wholeness through God's rescuing, redeeming love.

How To Study Your Bible. Vol. 7

Learn the five types of Bible study, and how to apply it to your life.

Strong-For-Life Relationships, Vol. 8

Expectations and boundaries for healthy relationships.

Faith Principles, Vol. 9

Examine the laws of faith, and how they operate in believers.

Discovering God's Will, Vol. 10

Easy truths to discover God's purpose and plan for your life.

THE FOUNDATIONS-FOR-LIFE CURRICULUM INTRODUCES THE ADVENTURES OF FOLLOWING JESUS CHRIST AND ESTABLISHES CHRISTIAN FOUNDATIONS THAT WILL KEEP TEXAS BIBLE INSTITUTE ALUMNI STRONG FOR LIFE.

WWW.TEXASBIBLEINSTITUTE.ORG 1-888-333-2TBI (2824)

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@TexasBibleInstitute

GROUP CONTACT NOTES

So then, while we [as individual believers] have the opportunity, let us do good to all people [not only being helpful, but also doing that which promotes their spiritual well-being], and especially [be a blessing] to those of the household of faith (born-again believers).

GAL. 6:10 AMP



Strong For Life

Texas Bible Institute is an outreach of Burchfield Ministries International

TexasBibleInstitute.org • P.O. Box 100 • Columbus, TX, 78934

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