

For Immediate Release

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***THE ABIDE BIBLE* HELPS READERS ENGAGE SCRIPTURE THROUGH PRAYER, MEDITATION, JOURNALING, ART**

**TAYLOR UNIVERSITY'S CENTER FOR SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT
PARTNERS WITH THOMAS NELSON BIBLES, BIBLEGATEWAY**



December 4, 2019, Nashville, TN – Thomas Nelson Bibles, in partnership with BibleGateway and Taylor University's Center for Scripture Engagement, announces the 2020 release of *The Abide Bible*. Unlike any other Bible product on the market today, *The Abide Bible* offers a holistic approach to engaging and applying scripture to daily life. Throughout the biblical text, readers are invited into practices that foster deeper reflection, prayer and spiritual growth.

The Abide Bible was born out of a decade of research with college students and young adults regarding their engagement with spirituality and scripture. Dr. Phil Collins, General Editor of *The Abide Bible*, explains "We saw many Christians eager to grow spiritually, yet they didn't know where to start with Bible reading or prayer. The team at Taylor University's Center for Scripture Engagement developed *The Abide Bible* to provide both a starting point and a path for continually abiding in God's Word."

The Abide Bible opens each book of the Bible with an introduction highlighting the book's author, enduring message and theme as well as historical and literary context. Woven throughout the biblical text are articles, prompts and sidebars to deepen engagement with scripture. Five types of exercises help readers of all ages and spiritual maturity meditate upon and apply God's Word:

1. **Praying Scripture:** Pattern your prayers after biblical texts, personalizing the prayer and gaining language for the thoughts and emotions you want to express.
2. **Picture It:** Place yourself in a biblical narrative as a bystander or participant in important events.
3. **Journaling:** Focus and reflect on Scripture and its meaning for your life, opening yourself to God's voice as you ponder.
4. **Engage Through Art:** Consider a classic piece of art—photograph, sculpture, painting—and let it deepen your meditations on scriptural truths. (Classic art is presented in full color throughout the Bible.)
5. **Contemplate:** Follow the church's longstanding practice of reading, meditating on, praying and contemplating a passage of Scripture in order to experience God's presence through the words of the Bible.

The Abide Bible releases March 31, 2020, in the New King James Version (NKJV), including cloth over board and leathersoft editions. *The Abide Bible* will release in the New English Translation (NET) later in 2020.

“Bible readers want a tool that helps them more engage the Scriptures in a deep and personal manner. The response we are seeing to *The Abide Bible* is one of genuine excitement,” says Philip Nation, Vice President and Publisher for Thomas Nelson Bibles. “With its five spiritual practices presented in a beautiful and helpful manner throughout every chapter, *The Abide Bible* is one that readers will love and share with others.”

Thomas Nelson Bibles has launched a multi-level marketing campaign for *The Abide Bible* including a website (www.AbideBible.com), multiple contributor videos, and special promotions during national and regional conferences. Cross-promotions between BibleGateway and Taylor University Center for Scripture Engagement will extend into summer 2020.

About Phil Collins:

Dr. Phil Collins serves as the General Editor for *The Abide Bible*. He is Co-executive Director of the Taylor University Center for Scripture Engagement where he has been a full-time Christian Ministries professor since 1999. Dr. Collins earned a B.A. in Bible Literature and Christian Education from Taylor University, an M.A. in Christian Education from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from Purdue University. In addition to his academic work, Dr. Collins was formerly on staff with Youth for Christ and has served as a church youth pastor.

About Thomas Nelson: Thomas Nelson is a world leading publisher and provider of Christian content and has been providing readers with quality inspirational product for more than 200 years. As part of HarperCollins Christian Publishing, Inc., the publishing group provides multiple formats of award-winning Bibles, books, gift books, cookbooks, curriculum and digital content, with distribution of its products in more than 100 countries. Thomas Nelson is headquartered in Nashville, TN. For additional information visit www.thomasnelson.com.