

2026

The Year of Distinction Study Guide

FIVE WEEKS THROUGH THE FIVE MARKS

"Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct?"

EXODUS 33:16

ONE WAY CHURCH · HIS PRESENCE IS OUR PRIORITY

Five weeks. Five marks. One year.

Distinction is not earned through performance. It is revealed through proximity. This guide is a five-week invitation into nearness.

Walk through one mark each week: alone, with your family, or with your group. Read the passages slowly enough that they read you. Answer honestly; unexamined answers form no one. Journal what God says. And speak the weekly declaration out loud every day, because distinction is sustained by aligned speech.

Let each week draw you **nearer. Nearness does the forming.**

Sight.

Distinction begins with vision. Before you can walk distinct, you must see distinct: your purpose, your identity, your future, all through enlightened eyes. This week, ask God to show you what you have been missing.

READ THIS WEEK: EPHESIANS 1:15-23 · PROVERBS 29:18 · 2 KINGS 6:8-17

Reflect

1. Where have I been seeing only the natural and missing the supernatural?
2. Which do I struggle to see most: my purpose, my identity, or my future? Why?
3. Elisha's servant saw the army only after prayer. What might God open my eyes to if I asked?

Journal

Declare all week

Father, enlighten the eyes of my heart this week.

Conviction.

Preference bends; conviction stands. Daniel prayed as he had done previously when prayer became illegal. This week, examine what you actually stand on when standing costs something.

READ THIS WEEK: DANIEL 6:1-28 · JOSHUA 24:14-15 · ROMANS 12:1-2

Reflect

1. Where has preference been posing as conviction in my life?
2. When was the last time obedience cost me something? What did I learn?
3. What is one conviction I will hold in 2026 regardless of pressure?

Journal

Declare all week

Lord, give me convictions worth more than my comfort.

Unconditional Devotion.

Conditional devotion produces fragile faith. Habakkuk resolved to rejoice though every blessing failed. This week, love God for no reason, and discover the love no reason can take away.

READ THIS WEEK: HABAKKUK 3:17-19 · JOB 1:13-22 · PSALM 73:25-26

Reflect

1. Honestly: what reasons have fueled my devotion to God?
2. What would my faith look like if every one of those reasons disappeared?
3. What does loving God for no reason look like in my ordinary Tuesday?

Journal

Declare all week

God, I love You because You are worthy. Period.

Legacy.

When God marks you, He marks your bloodline. Your distinction in 2026 becomes an inheritance for generations you will never meet. This week, lift your eyes past your own lifetime.

READ THIS WEEK: DEUTERONOMY 7:9 · PSALM 78:1-8 · 2 TIMOTHY 1:3-7

Reflect

1. What patterns am I setting right now that my children or those after me will inherit?
2. Where have I settled for breaking curses when God wants me building blessing?
3. What is one spiritual practice I want to hand down, and to whom?

Journal

Declare all week

Faithful God, let my distinction become their inheritance.

Endurance.

Distinction is proven over time. The Year of Distinction is not a sprint; it is a declaration of trajectory. This week, build the rhythms that let you finish stronger than you started.

READ THIS WEEK: HEBREWS 12:1-3 · PHILIPPIANS 1:3-6 · GALATIANS 6:7-10

Reflect

1. Where am I sprinting when God is asking me to run long?
2. What has made me quit in past seasons, and what will be different this year?
3. What weekly rhythm will keep me anchored through all of 2026?

Journal

Declare all week

Lord, You began this work. Bring it to completion.

BEYOND THE FIVE WEEKS

Stay in the Word all year.

15-Minute Daily Rhythm

1 Psalm · 1 Proverb · 1 Gospel chapter

30-Minute Daily Rhythm

1 Psalm · 1 Proverb · 1 Gospel chapter · 1 Old Testament chapter · 1 New Testament chapter

Anchor Passages for 2026

Exodus 33 · Ephesians 1 · Leviticus 20:22-26 · Daniel 6 · Habakkuk 3 · Deuteronomy 7 · Hebrews 12 · Malachi 3 · 1 Samuel 6-7

As you read, keep one question near: what does this show me about the God who makes His people distinct?