

A LETTER TO THE

Spheerian



YOUR LIFE IN THE FAMILY

BACK TO THE BASICS

“Gentlemen, this is a football.”



“Men, this is how you put your shoes and socks on.”

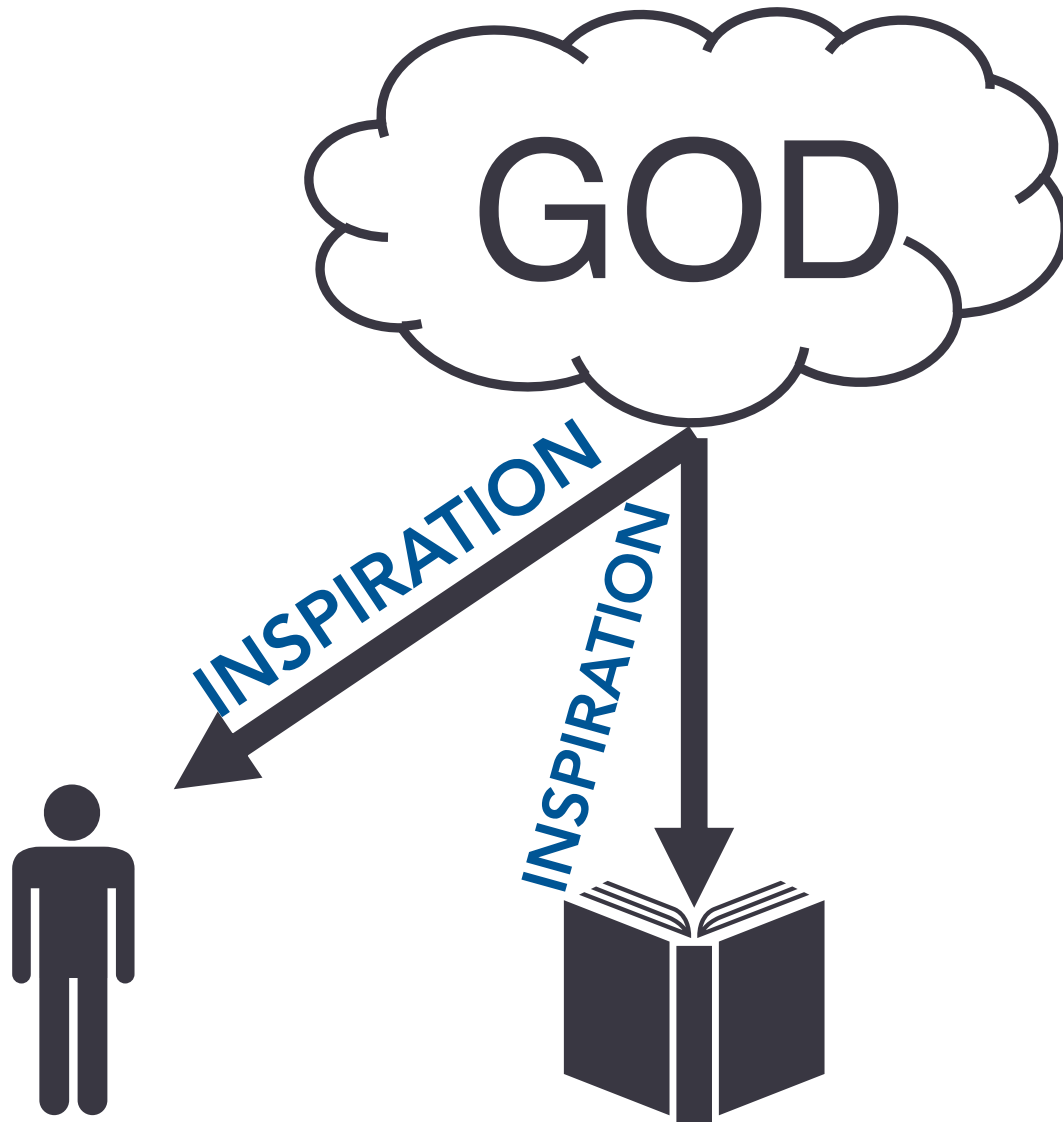


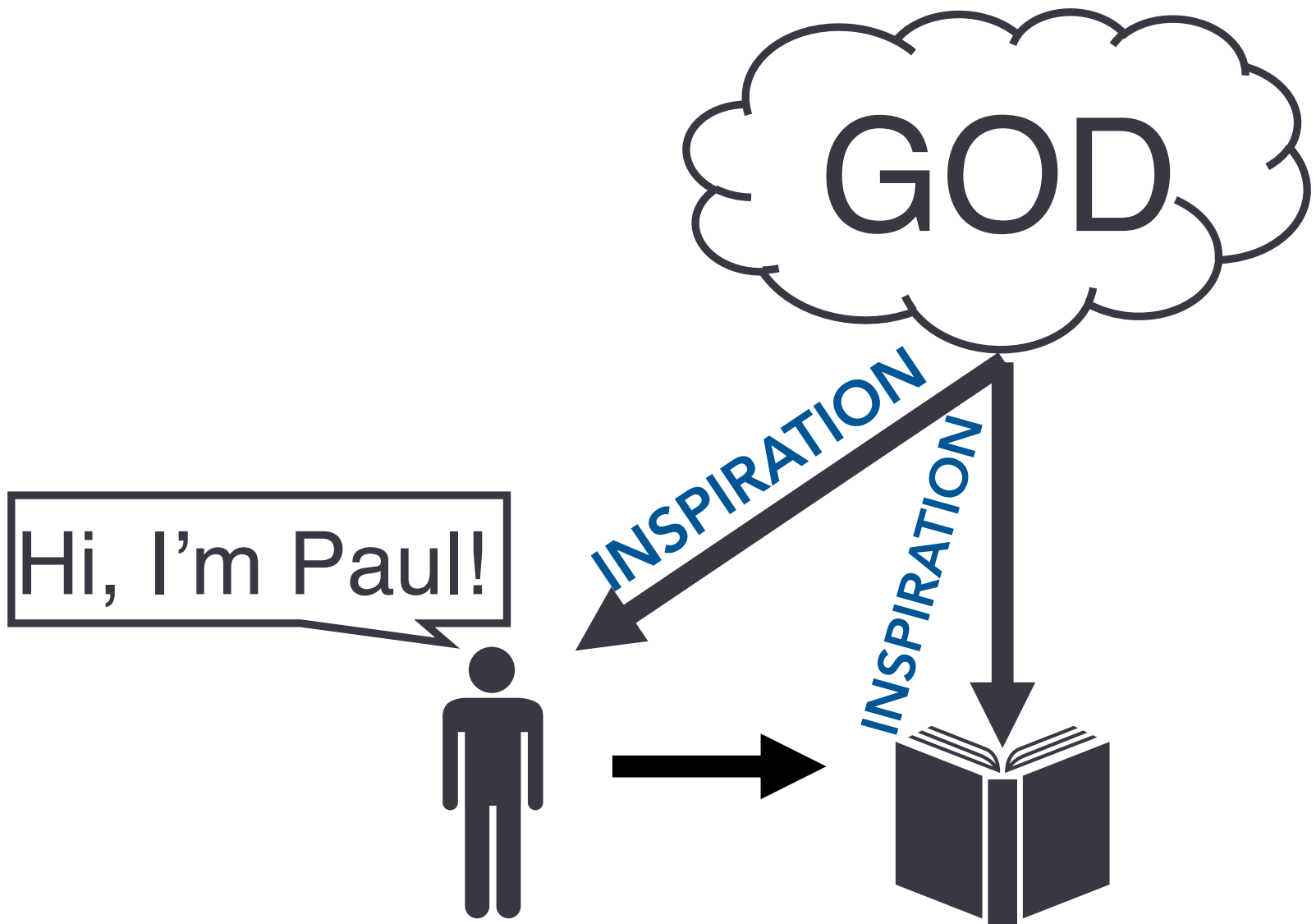


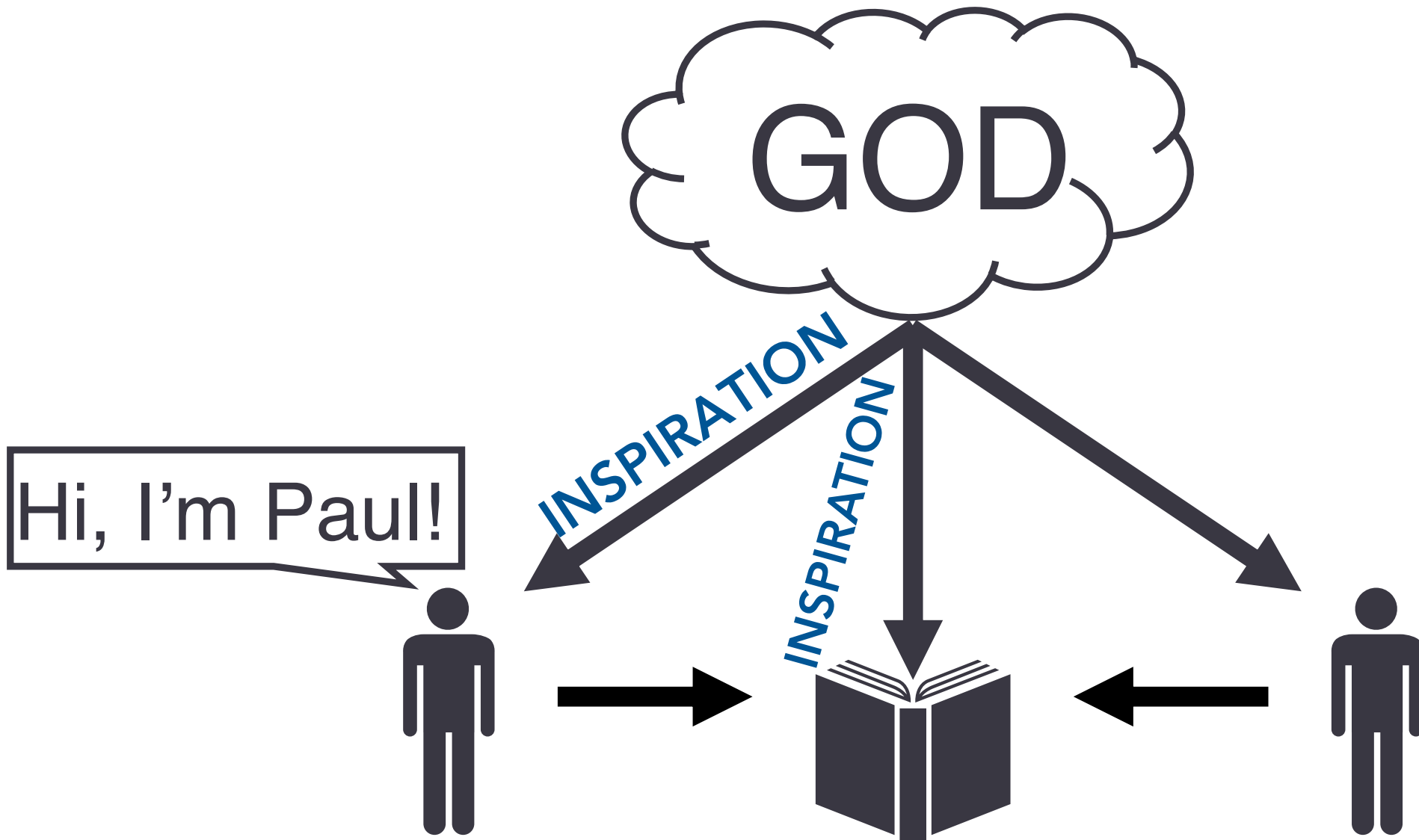
GOD

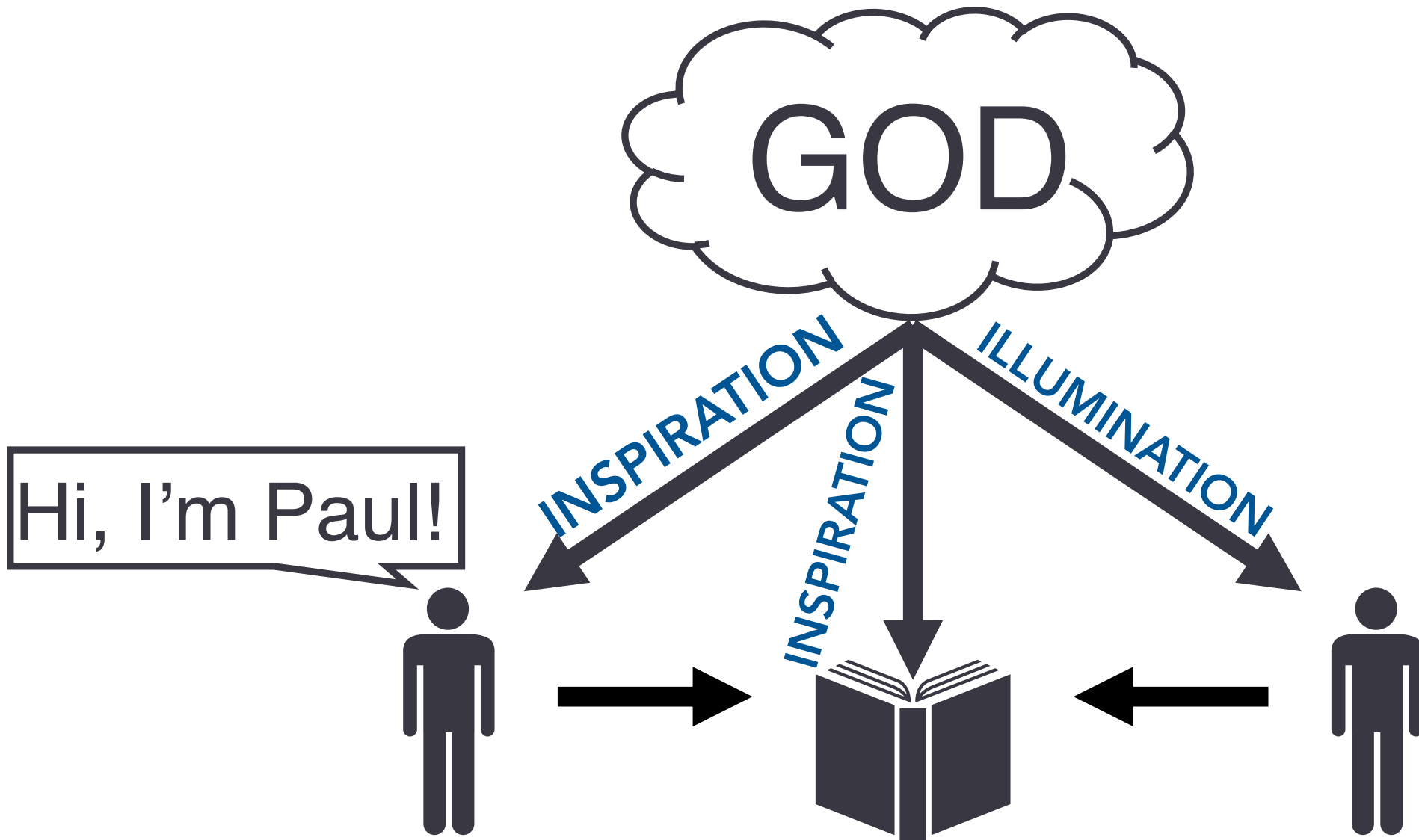


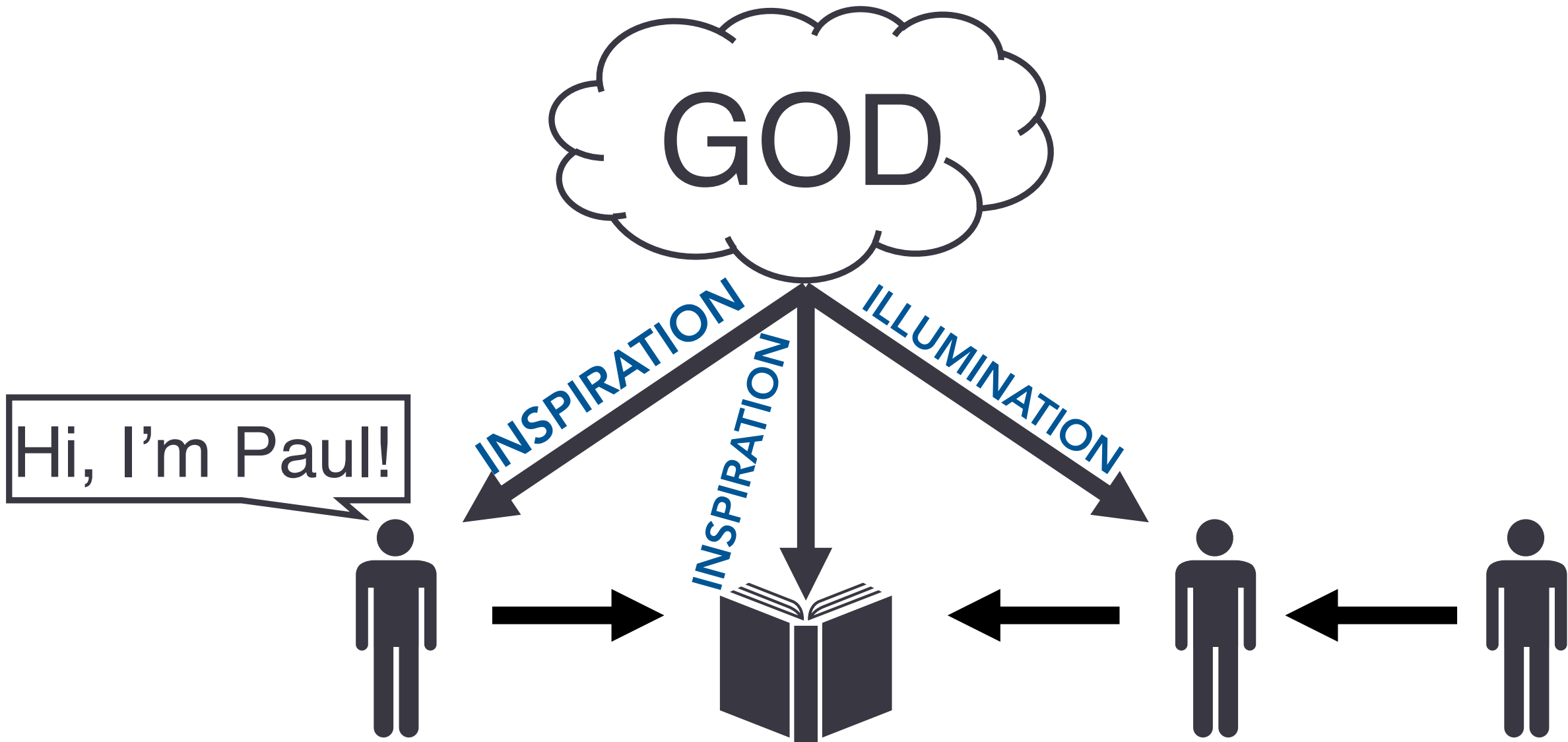












Ephesians 3:14-19

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶ that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

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BIG IDEA

Paul writes this letter to help us see who we are as part of God's family, and what impact that should have on our lives. Ephesians is written to a community to help them experience the infinite and inexhaustible fullness of God, lived out and experienced as a family, and displayed to the world. In order to launch into this journey, we need to focus on the basics.

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- **Who is Paul?**

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- **He hated followers of Jesus Christ.**

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- **Paul belongs to Jesus.**

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Apostle: Title in Scripture attributed to those who knew Jesus personally and to those few who had been handpicked by Jesus to be his ambassadors, representatives, emissaries.

Acts 9:1-22

9 But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. ⁴ And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” ⁵ And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.” ⁶ But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸ Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.

Acts 9:1-22

⁹ And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰ Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel.

Acts 9:1-22

¹⁶ For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷ So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹ and taking food, he was strengthened.

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- Who is Paul?
- Paul belongs to Jesus.
- **Paul has authority granted him by Jesus.**

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- **The Recipients – People who love Jesus.**

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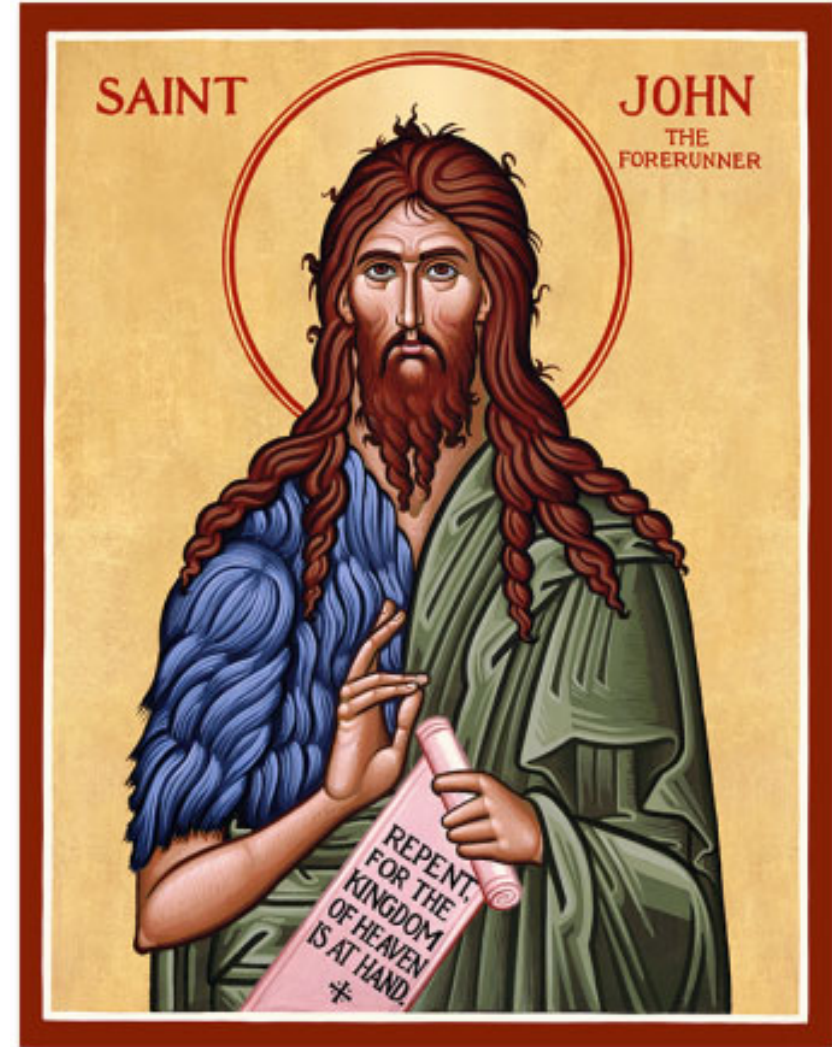
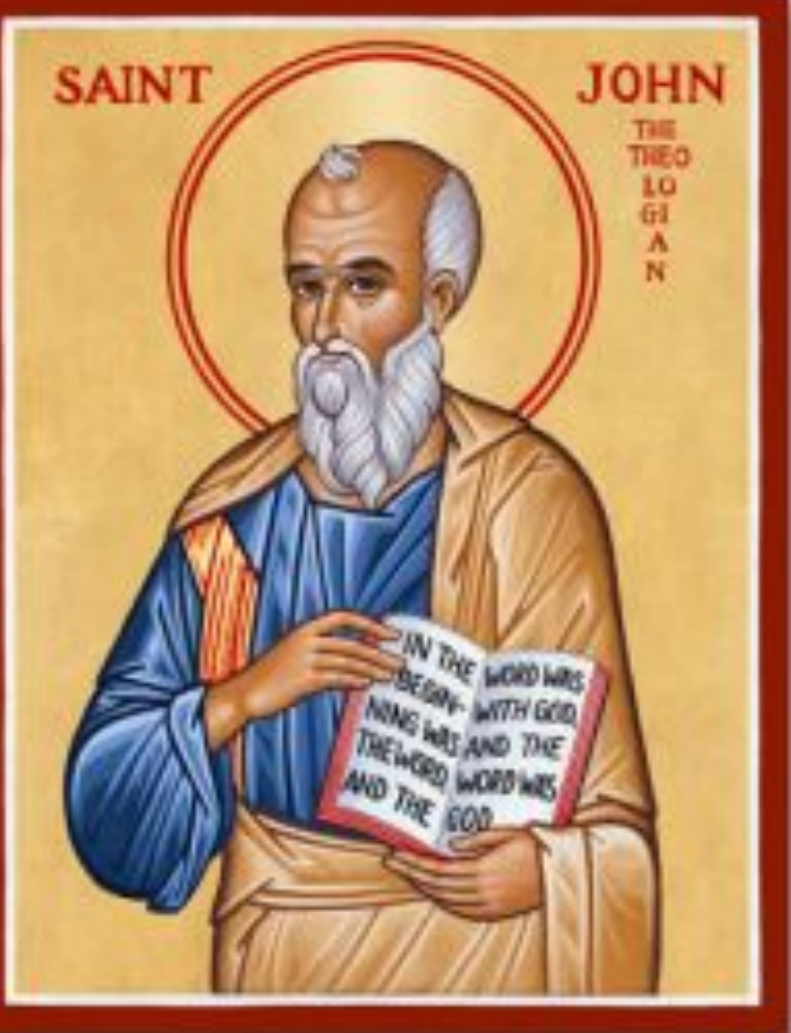
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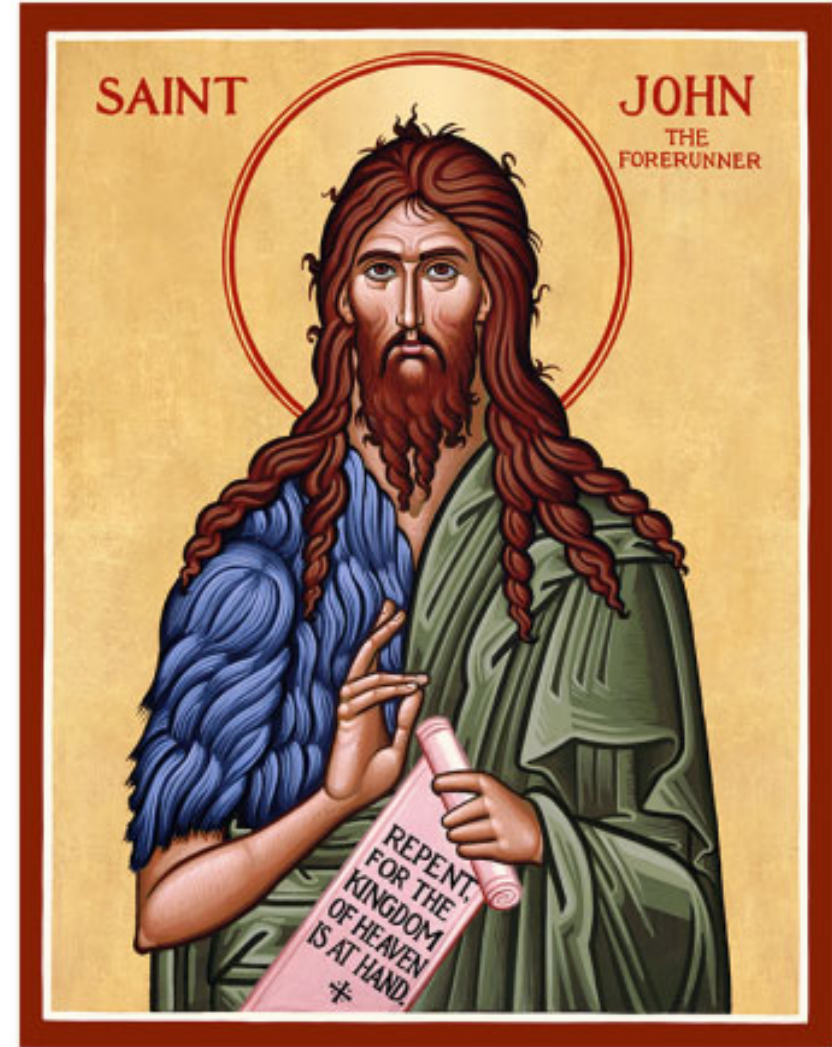
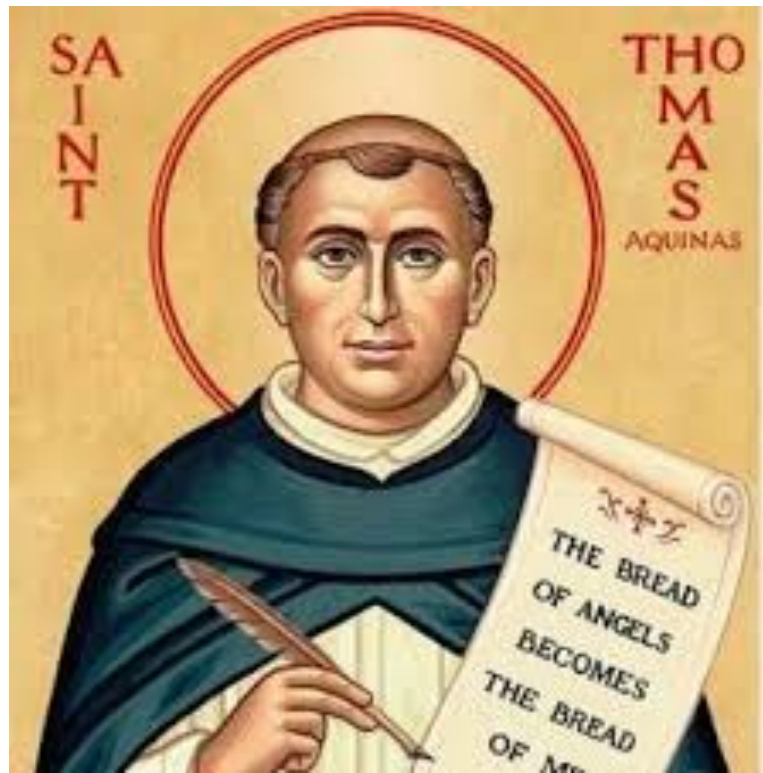
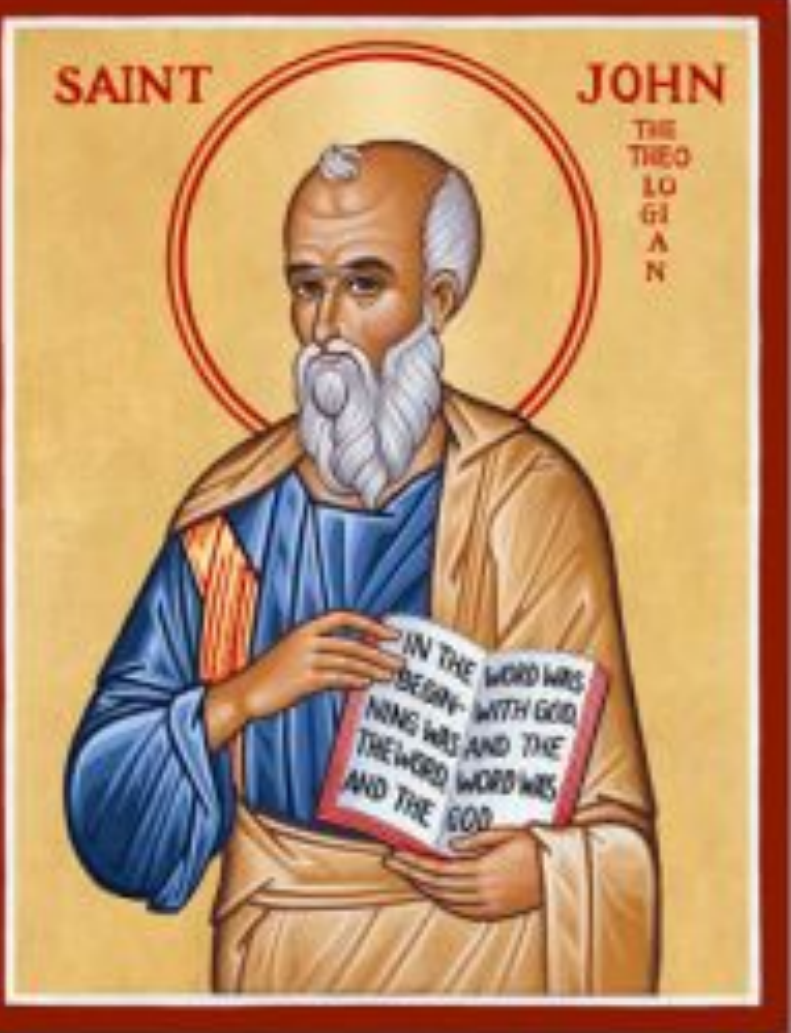
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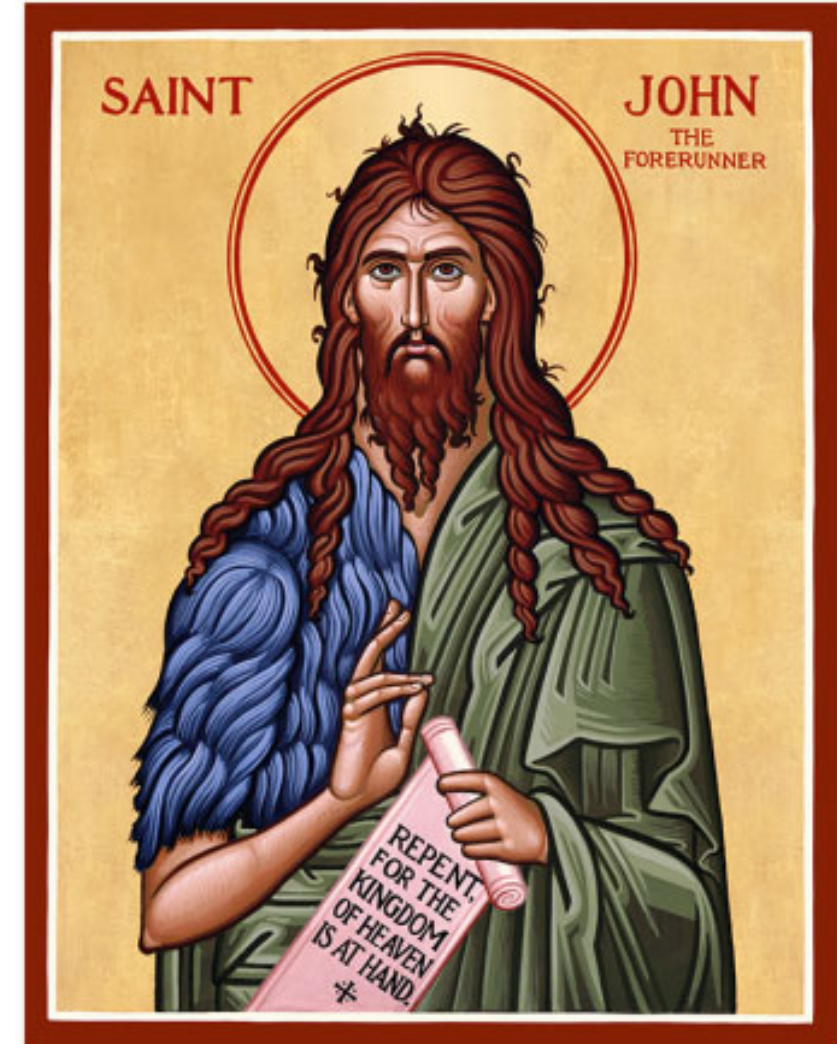
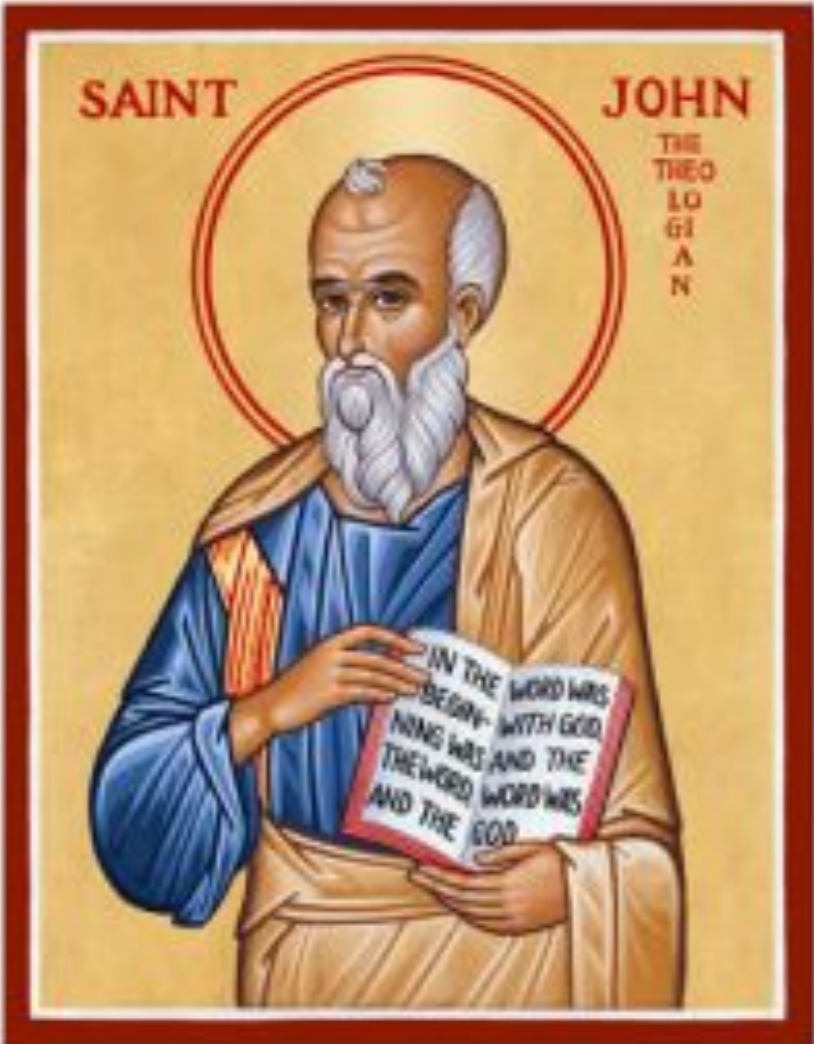
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- **Someone who has been made holy set apart to God, been forgiven, through faith in Christ Jesus**

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- **Volitionally** chosen to love him, to follow, to obey.

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“It is not what a man does that determines whether his work is sacred or secular; it is why he does it. The motive is everything. Let a man sanctify the Lord God in his heart and he can thereafter do no common act.”

- A.W. Tozer, **The Pursuit of God.**

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- **The Greeting – Grace is available and flowing.**

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Ephesians 6:23-24

²³ Peace be to the brothers, and love with faith,
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Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

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Grace in the Past- you have been saved.

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

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Grace in the Past- you have been saved.

Grace in the present- you are currently being saved.

1 Corinthians 1:18 | 2 Corinthians 2:15-16

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

¹⁵ For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, ¹⁶ to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life.

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Grace in the Past- you have been saved.

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Grace for the future- you will be saved.

Romans 5:9

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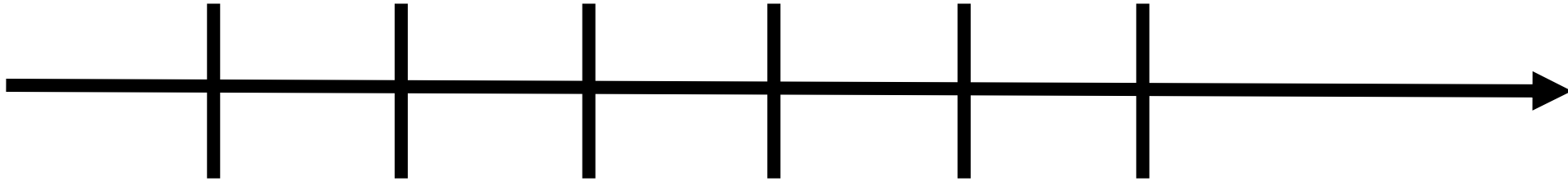
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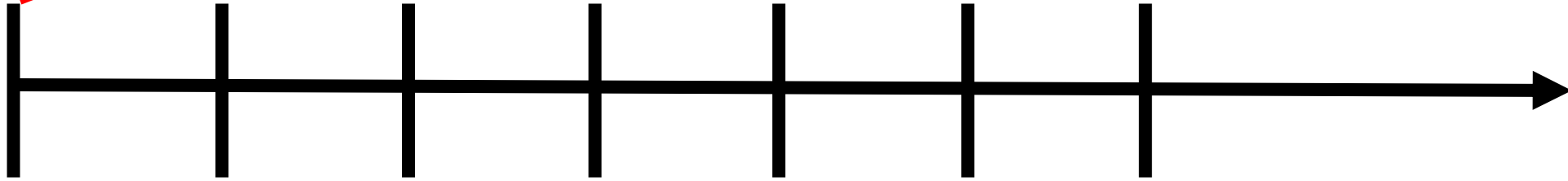
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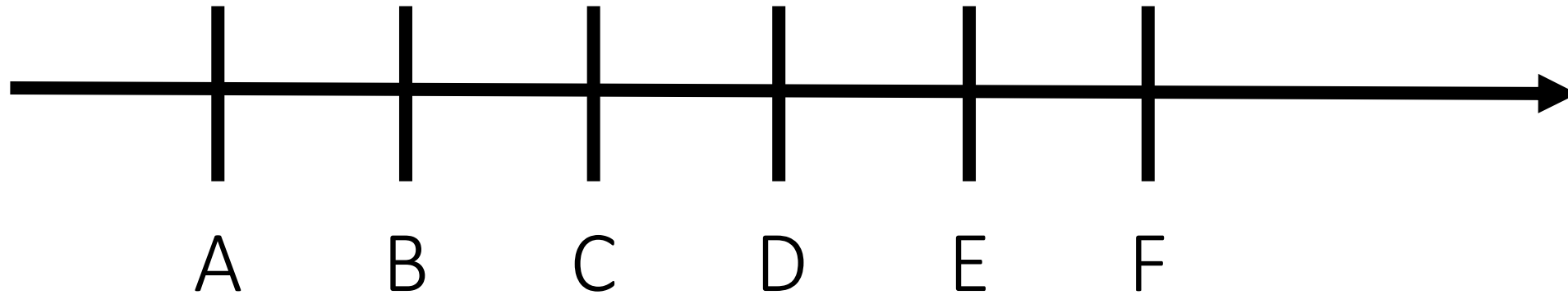
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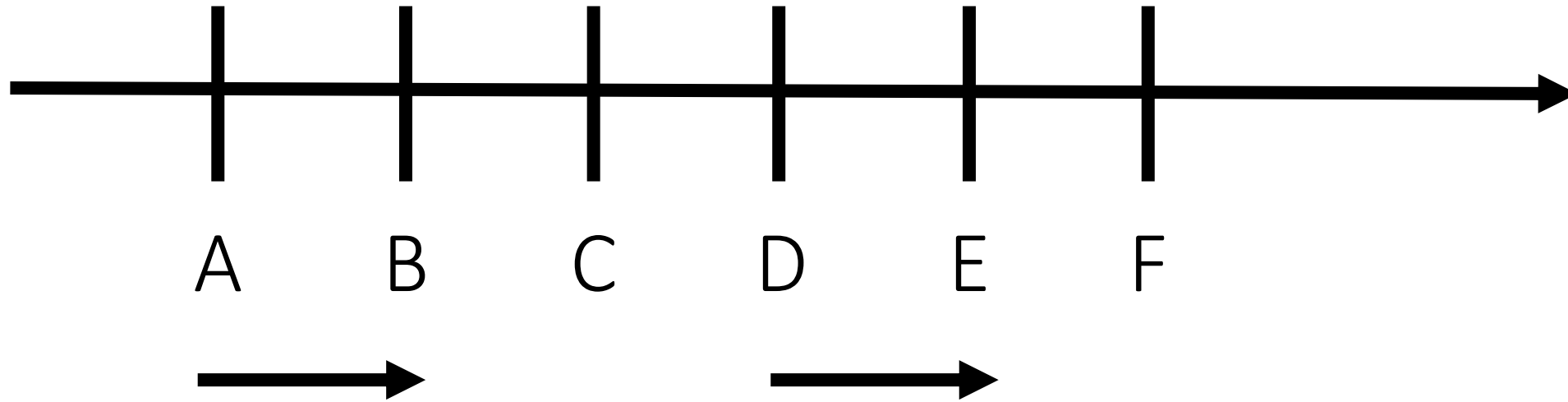


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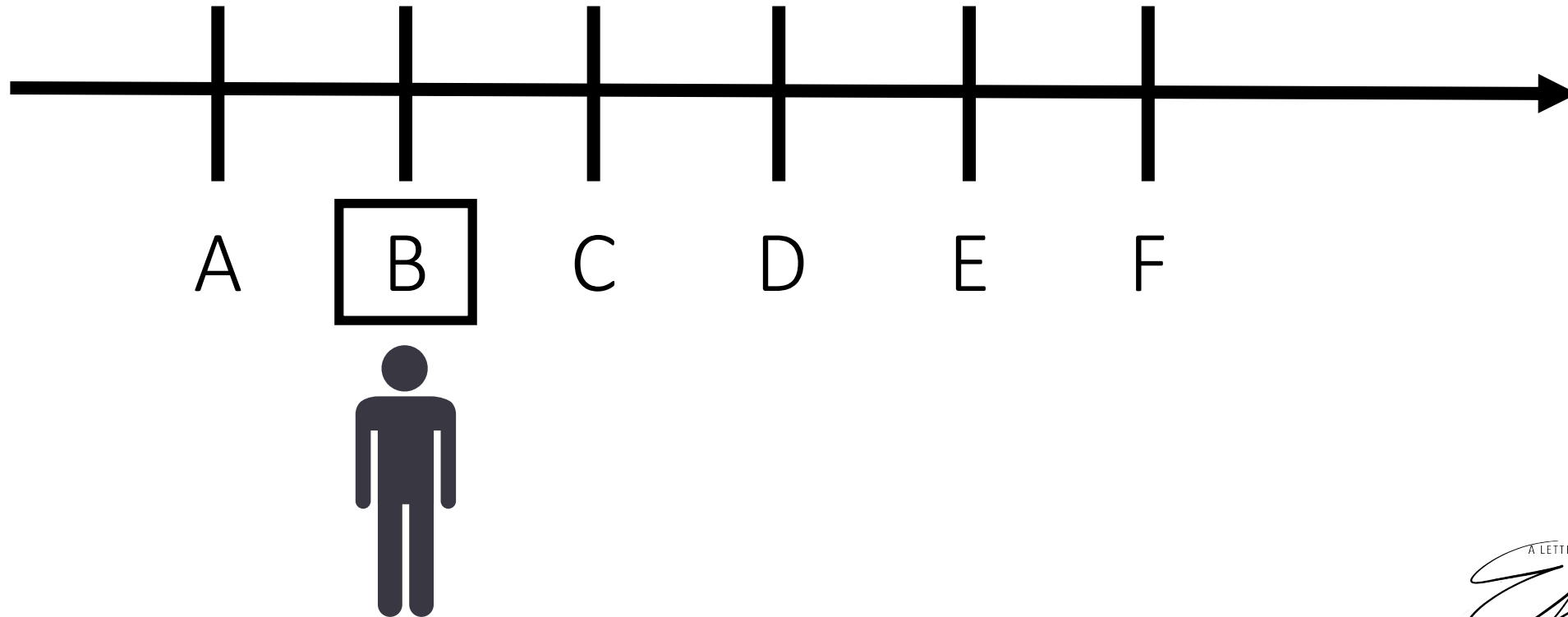
Sanctification



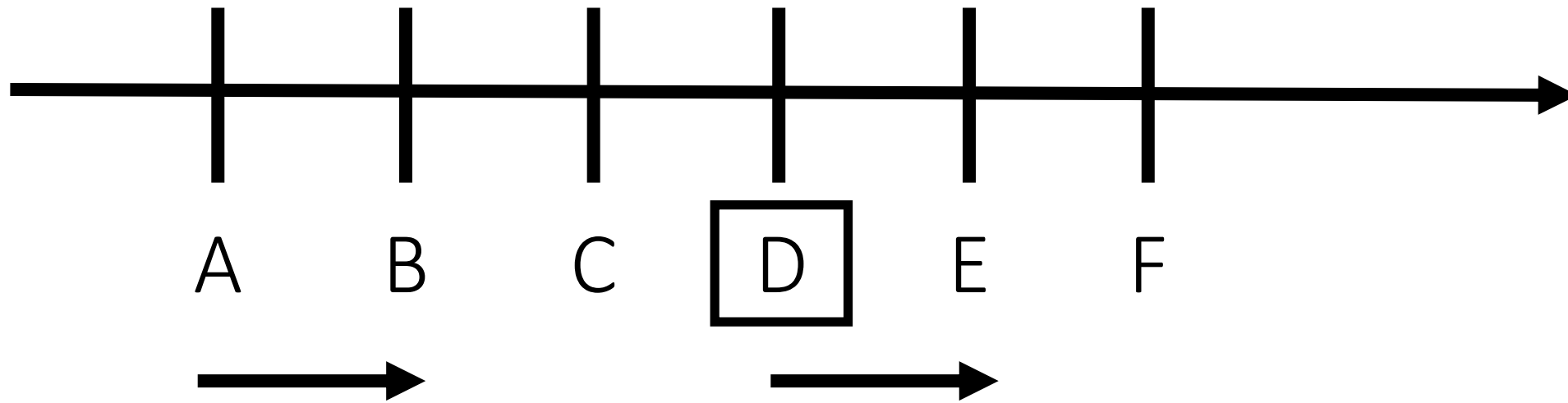
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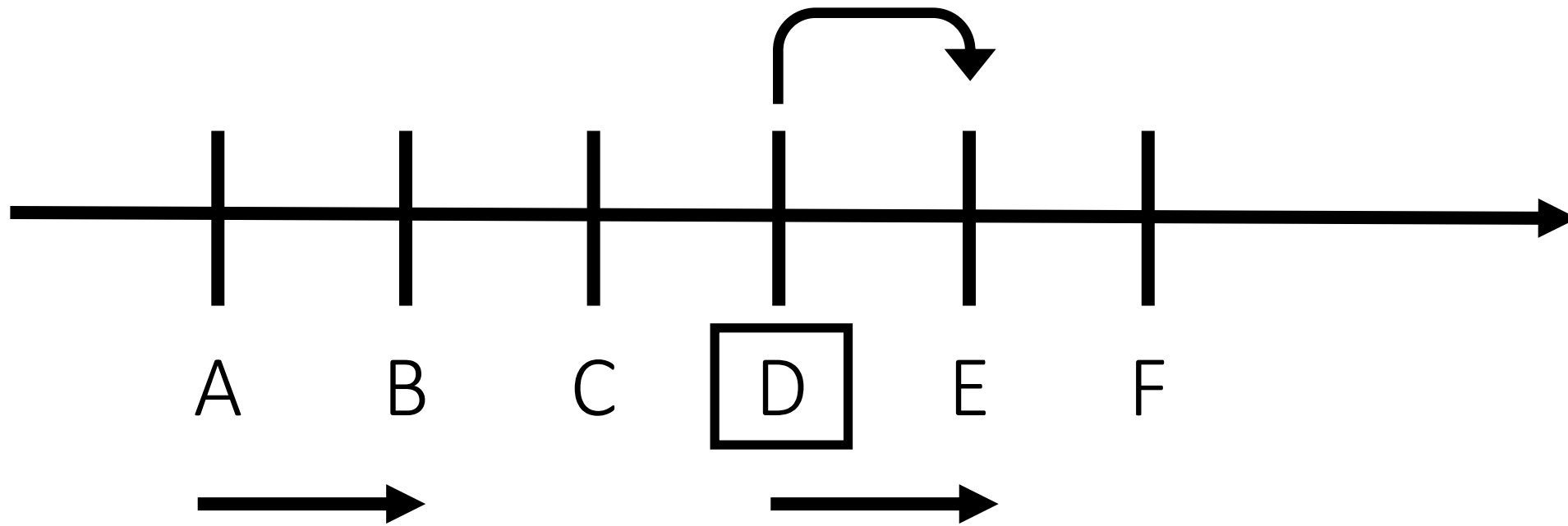
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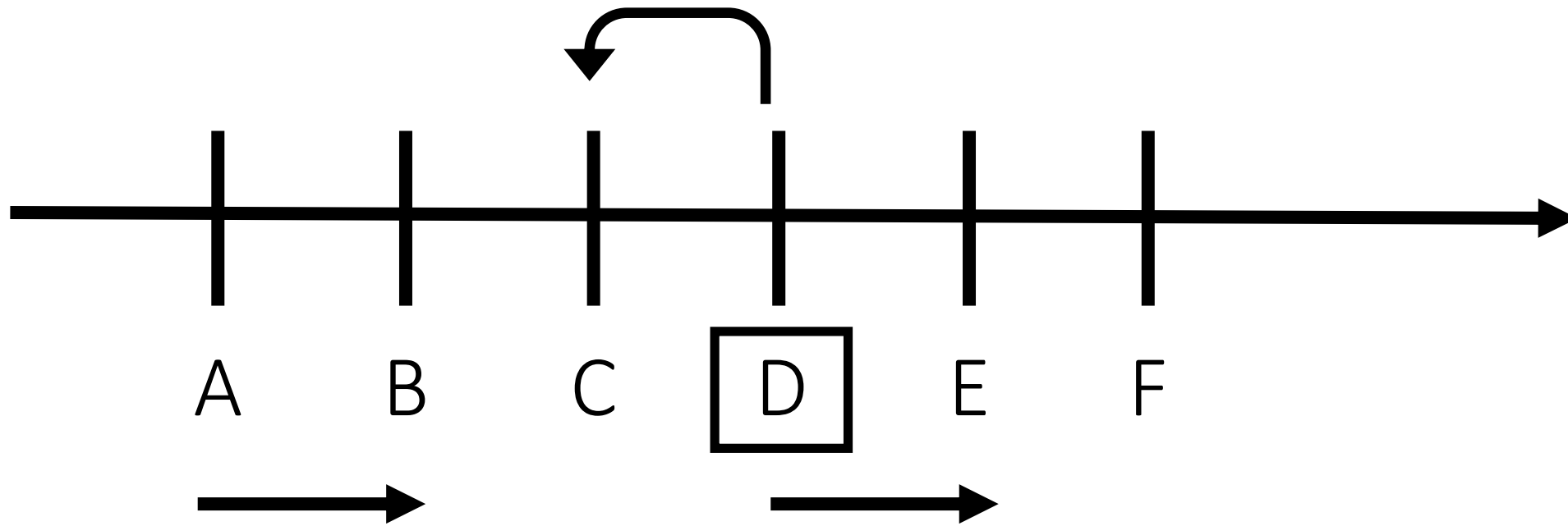
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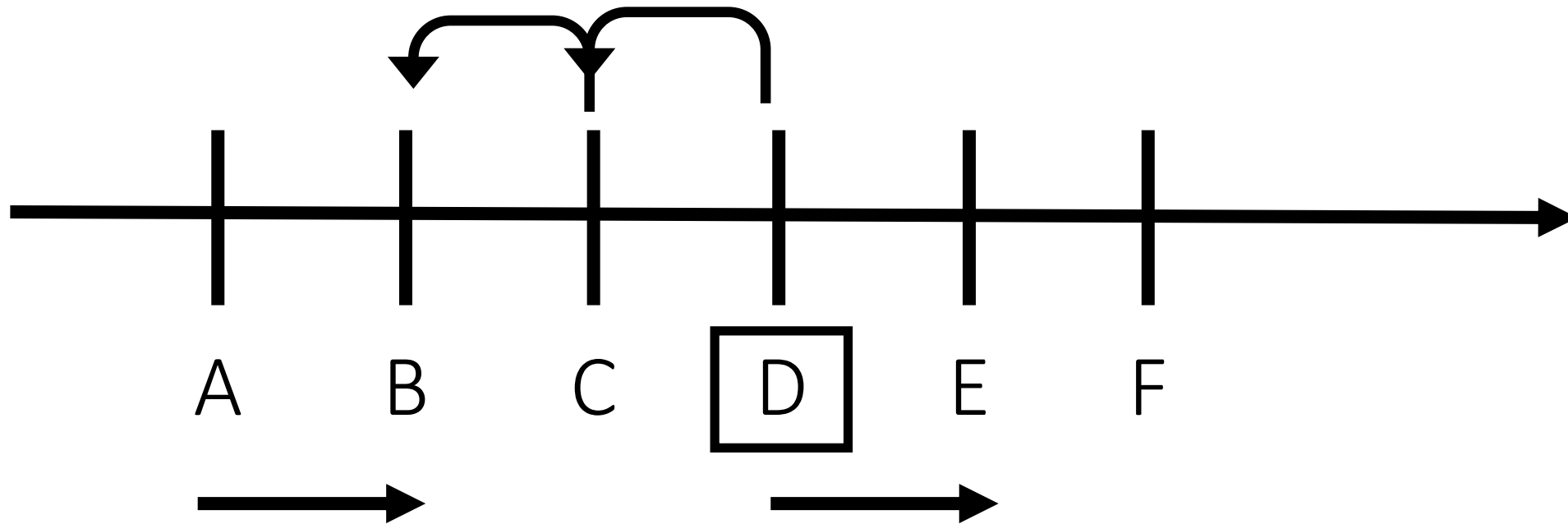
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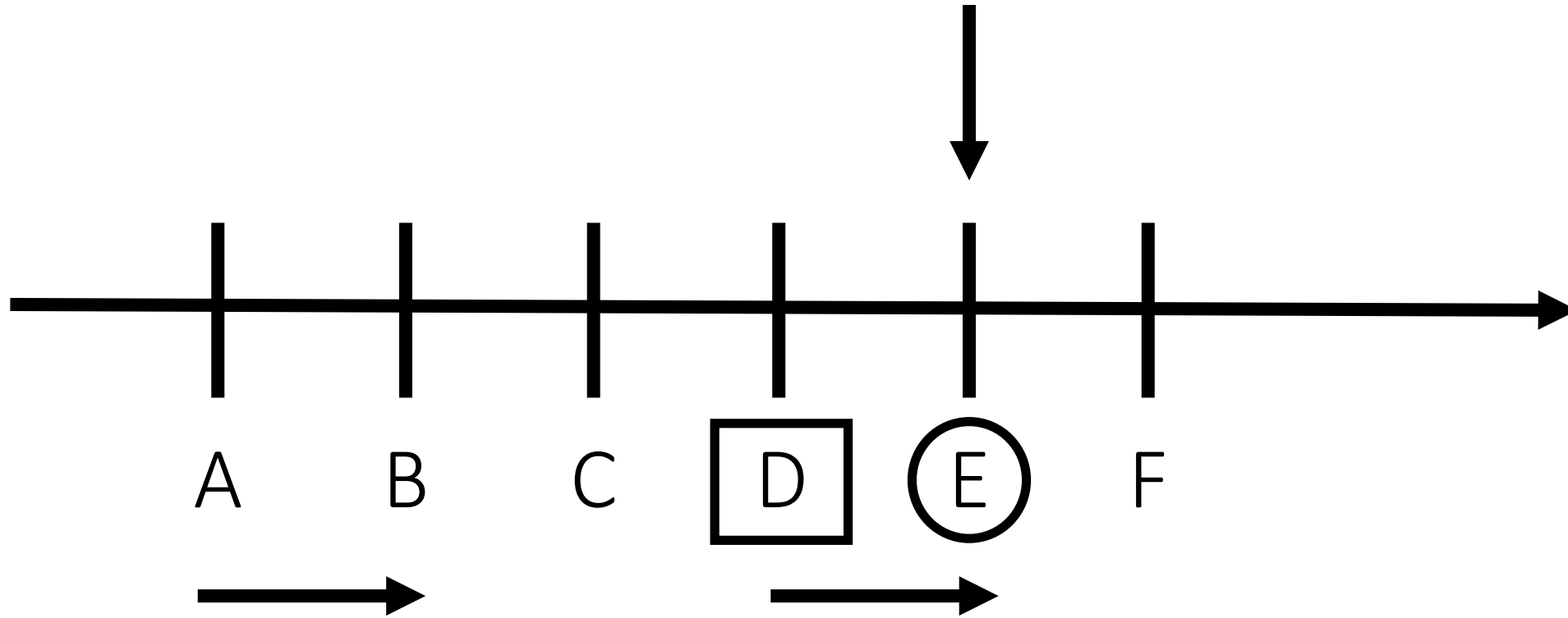
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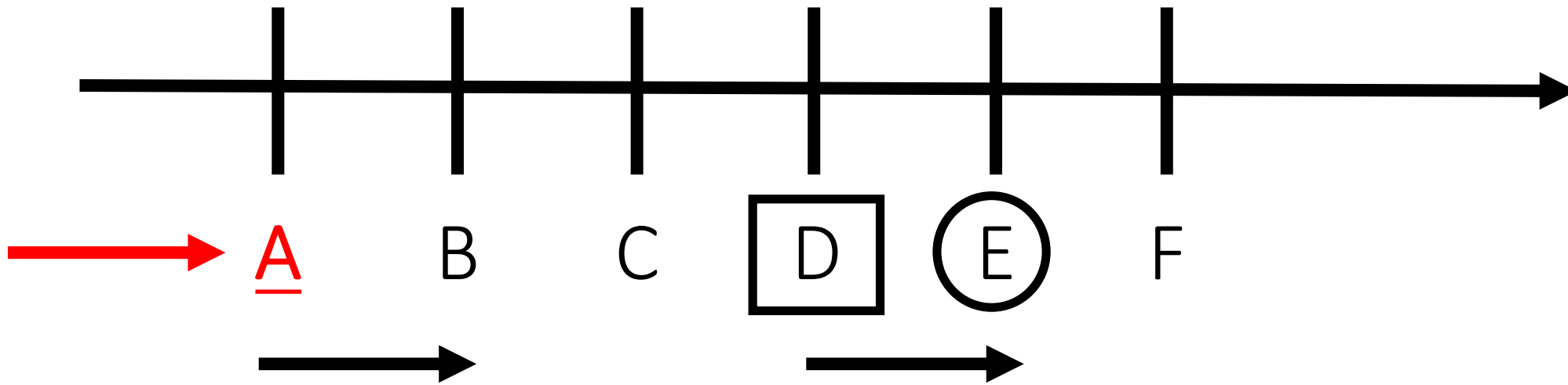
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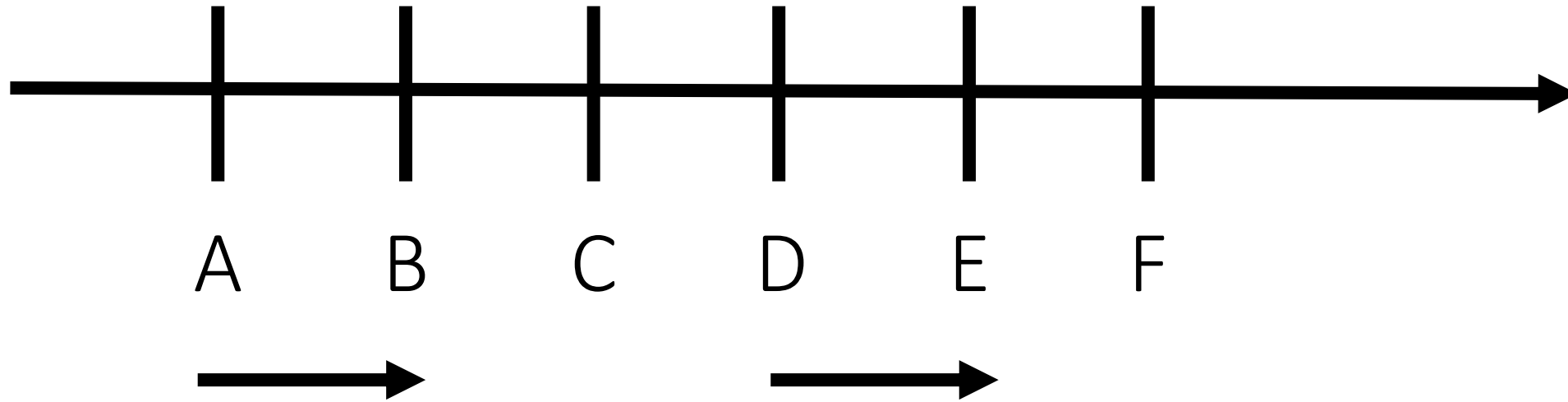


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- Seeing God's grace from the beginning to the end of the Bible builds an unshakable confidence.
- **Reading, truly reading, the Bible will change your life.**

Life is better together.

Hillcrest | LifeGroups

Meet some new faces in the family.

LifeGroups are the friends you grow, laugh, and serve alongside far beyond the Sunday morning worship gathering.

READ IT. KNOW IT. LIVE IT.

God uses human relationships as a vital means of stimulating spiritual life and transformation. Therefore, LifeGroups are centered on a discussion of the weekly messages, as well as vibrant conversations of life including local missions, sports, hobbies, food, family, or any activity that brings people together consistently in community.

THE FOUR LIFE GROUP RHYTHMS:

Scripture: Every group is grounded in the conversation centered on the text.

Relationship: Every group is rooted in the conversation to give and to get.

Application: Every group strives to see the pursuit of the text move beyond an intellectual discussion to one that permeates our emotions and behavior.

Prayer: Every group prays together and for each other regularly.

TO GET CONNECTED

Visit <http://hbclife.com/grow/group-life/>
OR fill out this LifeGroup flyer and drop it in the Offering Boxes in the worship building. If the first group you visit doesn't seem to be the right fit, don't give up! With many LifeGroups meeting each week, and more forming, you're bound to find one that is the right fit for you.

Contact Info:

Name: _____
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YOUR LIFE IN THE FAMILY

A LETTER TO THE

Spheerian



YOUR LIFE IN THE FAMILY

BACK TO THE BASICS