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SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION FOR THE 3-STEP FRAMEWORK

◆ STEP 1 —

ESTABLISH (FOUNDATION OF TRUTH)

Biblical idea: God establishes truth, identity, and reality before instruction or discernment.

Core Scriptures

Isaiah 28:16

 Foundation comes first.

Matthew 16:16-18

 Revelation of who Christ is precedes church authority or mission.

[Ephesians](#) 1:3-5

 Identity established before behavior (chapters 4-6).

1 John 3:1

 Assurance precedes exhortation.

Step 1 Principle (Biblical)

◆ STEP 2 —

DISCERN (FILTER & TEST)

Biblical idea: Truth must be tested, weighed, and guarded once it is established.

Core Scriptures

[1 John 4:11](#)

 Discernment is commanded — but only after identity is secure.

[Hebrews 5:14](#)

 Discernment is a maturity skill, not a suspicion reflex.

Acts:17:11

 Truth is tested by Scripture, not personality or popularity.

[2 Corinthians](#) 11:3

 Deception works through distortion, not open rebellion.

Step 2 Principle (Biblical)

◆ STEP 3 —

WALK (INTEGRATION & OBEDIENCE)

Biblical idea: Truth is meant to be lived, not just believed or defended.

Core Scriptures

James 1:22

📌 Hearing without walking is self-deception.

Romans 12:1-2

📌 Doctrine (1-11) flows into walking (12-15).

John 13:17

📌 Blessing is attached to obedience, not knowledge alone.

[1 John](#) 2:6

 Abiding proves itself through walking.

Step 3 Principle (Biblical)

 THE FRAMEWORK AS A SINGLE
SCRIPTURAL FLOW

One passage actually contains all three steps explicitly:

Romans 12:1-2

- ESTABLISH → “By the mercies of God...”
(identity & grace)
- DISCERN → “Test and approve what God’s will is”
- WALK → “Present your bodies... be transformed”

 Paul does not invent the framework — he models it.

SUMMARY: THE FRAMEWORK IS BIBLICAL, NOT CONCEPTUAL

Step	Scripture Function
ESTABLISH	Identity, truth, foundation
DISCERN	Testing, guarding, filtering
WALK	Obedience, practice, fruit

This is how Scripture itself moves:

FINAL WORD (WHY THIS MATTERS)

You can now say with confidence:

That gives it:

- Authority without arrogance
- Flexibility without drift
- Discernment without fear

When you're ready later, we can:

- Build a Thompson-style chain index (key verses per step)
- Or map every epistle onto this structure in one page

But for now — your framework is biblically defined and defensible.