

STUDY SESSION 9

BCA GROUP TOUR NOV 2025

Italy Highlights

Beyond Paul



ASSISI

THE LEGACY OF ST. FRANCIS



- St. Francis of Assisi (1181–1226) was known for his humility, devotion, and care for creation.
- Founded the Franciscan order, emphasizing poverty, simplicity, and service.
- The Basilica of St. Francis houses stunning frescoes by Giotto depicting his life.

FLORENCE

The Cradle of the Renaissance

- Florence was the center of the Renaissance, where faith, art, and intellect flourished.
- Key sites:
 - The Duomo (Florence Cathedral) – A masterpiece of Gothic and Renaissance architecture.
 - Michelangelo's David – A symbol of strength, beauty, and biblical inspiration.
 - Uffizi Gallery – Home to world-famous religious paintings.



PISA



The Iconic Leaning Tower

- Pisa's **Leaning Tower** (built 12th century) symbolizes architectural wonder.
- The **Piazza dei Miracoli** (Square of Miracles) includes:
 - The **Cathedral of Pisa**
 - The **Baptistry** (renowned for acoustics and sacred music).

VERONA



A City of Romance and History

Verona is known for its rich Roman and medieval history.

- Key highlights:
 - The Arena of Verona – A remarkably preserved Roman amphitheater.
 - Juliet's Balcony – Inspired by Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.
 - Verona Cathedral (Duomo di Verona) – A stunning example of Romanesque architecture.

VENICE

Beauty, Faith, and History

Venice is a city of canals, cathedrals, and cultural depth.

- Key highlights:
 - St. Mark's Basilica – A stunning example of Byzantine architecture.
 - Grand Canal & Gondolas – A unique and timeless experience.
 - Murano glassmaking – A tradition passed down for centuries.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How does art and architecture inspire worship?
- Which city are you most excited to experience?
- What aspects of faith do these places reflect?



REFLECTION & APPLICATION



GOD'S PRESENCE IN CREATIVITY

Italy's spiritual and artistic heritage reminds us of God's presence in creativity.




KEY TAKEAWAY

Challenge:

How can we cultivate beauty, service, and faithfulness in our own lives?



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Q & A TIME

<https://bcachurch.com/walking-in-the-footsteps-of-the-apostle-paul/>