



GROUP ICE BREAKER

Are you an “I need to hold a book”, an “audio book is the way I roll”, or “has a movie been made of it” kind of reader and why?

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week? How did it go?

- I will accept Jesus’ invitation to follow him.
- I will self-evaluate what my activities and choices indicate are my priorities.
- I will re-evaluate those things that compete with Jesus First in my life.
- I will lean into the invitation to follow Jesus as the first priority in my life.

MESSAGE SUMMARY

You've heard the saying ‘you are what you eat,’ but what about the saying, ‘you are what you read?’ We are what we read because we understand that words are powerful. On Sunday, Kylie spoke about the Bible.

The Bible in its structure is this collection of books and chapters and words that reveal God’s relational truth for us. It’s this grouping of books, structured stories, poems and laws breathed out by God and written by human hands. When you start reading and diving into the Bible more and more, you begin to see patterns that emerge, patterns that reveal truths about God and about us. When we actively engage with and lean into God’s words the Bible becomes purposeful because it transforms us. Words are like seeds, planted deep into our hearts, sprouting new life. They bring new ways of thinking, acting and loving.

The Bible is purposeful because through it we learn how to live with God and through God. And as we live that way we are transformed; we become focused on what God is leading us to, what God desires for us. We learn how our story is God’s story. The Bible is purposeful because it transforms our lives, and it is accessible at any time.

Plug into it this week. Plug into knowing God and being transformed by God.

KEY STATEMENT FOR THE WEEK

- I believe the Bible has decisive authority over what I say and do.

KEY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Scripture memorization is a valuable spiritual practice in a Christ-centered life. Spend a few minutes each day committing this verse to memory.

- “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”
2 Timothy 3:16-17

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share something new you learned about the Bible from this message.
2. What has shaped your opinion or understanding of the Bible, positive or negative, in your life? Has that changed over the course of your spiritual journey? If so, how?
3. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and 2 Peter 1:19-21. Kylie said that “Scripture was breathed out of by God.” What does that mean to you? What would you say to someone who says the Bible was written by men and is not divine?
4. The early church believed that God spoke through the stories of the Bible; God spoke to them, God spoke to their world, and God spoke to their future. Share a time you believe God spoke to you through the Bible.
5. Discuss what it means for the Bible to have “authority” over our lives? Do you hesitate or push back against the Bible as authoritative? Why or why not?
6. What role has the Bible played in your spiritual journey and growth? Is reading it a regular spiritual practice? How often do you meditate on passages?
7. Read Psalms 19:7-14. List the ways David describes God’s word. Which one stands out to you and why?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

Use these as a guide to take your next step and commit to what you learned this week:

- I will reflect on how I view the Bible and how I understand the authority of the Bible for my life.
- I will self-evaluate how my understanding of the Bible influences how I read the Bible and how often I read the Bible.
- I will re-evaluate how much time I spend reading and meditating on the Bible.
- I will commit to spending time with God, actively engaging in Bible reading and exploration.

PRAYER

Prayer as a spiritual practice is our conversational life with God, where He hears from us and we hear from Him, with the intent of learning and leaning into His will for our lives. Let this prayer guide you over the next week.

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for revealing to me that the words in the Holy Bible are God breathed and You speak to me now through the Bible. I pray that I will know You better and that my mind be transformed as I read the Bible. Let my thoughts and my words be in alignment with Your Word. I desire that Your purpose be filled in my life. I pray in Jesus' name.

Amen

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- Psalm 19:1
- Romans 1:20
- Romans 1:16-17
- Romans 10:17
- Romans 12:2

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

The following are suggested resources if you would like to continue your study of this topic.

- [What is the Bible?](#)
- [Introduction To Bibliology: What Every Christian Should Know About the Origins, Composition, Inspiration, Interpretation, Canonicity, and Transmission of the Bible](#)
- [Ancient Word, Changing Worlds: The Doctrine of Scripture in a Modern Age](#)
- [The Bible](#)
- [Survey of the Bible: Understanding the Books, Places, Stories, People and Periods](#)