

EASE INTO THE BIBLE

DISCUSSION GUIDE

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Scripture is inspired by God
correcting, for training in
complete, equipped for



Chapter 1

1. What does it mean to “taste and see” the Bible? How has “tasting and seeing” it made a difference in the way you regard the Bible?
2. Are you new to the Bible or own a collection? How would you describe your relationship to the Bible?
3. Describe a few ways you know the Bible is unique and not like other books.
4. What, if anything, intimidates you about the Bible?
5. If you’re not reading the Bible daily, what’s stopping you?
6. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 2

1. Why did God create humans?
2. Discuss what stood out to you from the section titled, “The Bad News”? The section titled, “The Good News”?
3. In your own words, define sin?
4. Why is it important that we understand the gospel story and understand the Bible as one grand story?
5. Discuss how the Bible is about Christ and yet also our story?
6. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 3

1. As a group, compare and contrast who God proclaimed Christ to be with what many others called Him in His day. What have you heard people call Him today?
2. Describe how Jesus fulfills each role as Prophet, Priest, and King.
3. What is the only way we can be free of “sin’s payment” (see page 18)?
4. Since all are born with sin, how was Jesus born without sin? Why is this important? (See page 19.)
5. Why is it impossible for us to be sinless? (See page 19.)
6. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 4

1. Discuss how you feel about trusting the Bible. Is it difficult or easy for you?
2. Did any of the information in this chapter surprise you?
3. Which testimonies, physical evidence, and logical reasoning outlined in the chapter give you the most confidence in trusting the Bible?
4. What role does your faith play in the amount of trust you have in the Bible?
5. Why is the resurrection critical to our being able to trust the Bible?
6. Discuss current arguments in the culture and media against trusting the Bible. How would you answer their arguments?
7. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 5

1. Discuss the way God directed the writing of Scripture. Does the way He ordained its writing make it more or less easy to trust? Why?
2. What's something new you learned about the Bible that you didn't know until you read Chapter 5?
3. Why is it important to emphasize that the entire Bible is all about Jesus—regardless of the number of its authors?
4. Discuss how we can trust the Bible's anonymous authors.
5. What does it mean that the Bible is inerrant and infallible? How does this help you trust what fallible men wrote?
6. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 6

1. In your own words, describe how we got the Bible we have today.
2. Why is it important to understand that the New Testament books of the canon weren't chosen but were recognized as displaying God's "unique fingerprints" and as "already accepted as originating from God?" (See page 38–39.)
3. Why were the books of the Apocrypha rejected?
4. Discuss three criteria for a book to be accepted as inspired.
5. Why is it important to recognize that the Old and New Testament canon of Scripture is closed?
6. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 7

1. What is the mystery concealed in the Old Testament?
2. How does Augustine's quote on page 44 reinforce the importance of reading and studying both Testaments?
3. What does the word "Testament" mean? Why do we have two Testaments instead of one?
4. How did you think the Bible is ordered before you read this chapter?
5. Why is it important to know the Bible's genres?
6. Briefly discuss the divisions of each Testament and what makes each one unique.
7. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 8

1. How do you respond to this statement on page 55: "It's hard to place a modern date on ancient history"?
2. How did timekeeping for the Bible writers differ from the way we keep time? Why is this significant when we want to read the Bible chronologically?
3. How does looking at the chronological list of Bible books challenge any beliefs you may have about the Bible?
4. Have you ever read the whole Bible chronologically? If so, how did it help you better understand the overarching message of the Bible?
5. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 9

1. Have you ever read the whole Bible? If yes, discuss what impacted you most from doing so. If no, what has been your greatest challenge to doing so?
2. Discuss the Four Bible Reading Commitments outlined in the chapter. Which stood out to you most, and why?
3. Would you say you love to read the Old Testament, or do you have to force yourself to read it? Discuss your answer.
4. Discuss AW Tozer's quote and Mom's quote on page 64. How do they challenge or encourage you?
5. Have you used any of the best (or worst) reading plans listed in this chapter? If so, which did you use, and what were the benefits and/or challenges?
6. Which Bible reading plan will you commit to now and going forward?
7. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 10

1. What was your knowledge of Bible translations before you read this chapter?
2. What translation do you use most? Why?
3. Discuss the four different methods for Bible translation.
4. Which translations will you read next?
5. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 11

1. What is the Transformational Bible Study Method outlined in this chapter? Briefly discuss its benefits.
2. Why is it important to understand that the Bible was written for us, but not to us or about us?
3. How does understanding Scripture's context help us better understand and interpret what we're reading? What danger do we face if we ignore context?
4. Discuss the statement on page 87, "True belief responds with action."
5. Describe the difference between can and will and between doing and responding. (See page 87.)
6. Was the concept of "Faith alert notifications" new to you? How does this concept encourage, challenge, and/or instruct you? (See page 89.)
7. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 12

1. What was your opinion of doctrine before you read this chapter?
2. How is doctrine a life vest rather than a straitjacket?
3. What are some examples of what may happen when we ignore doctrine?
4. What happens when we let our culture, preferences, or personal beliefs shape our doctrine rather than the Bible?
5. Discuss the idea that "everyone is a theologian"? (See page 101.)
6. Discuss with your group a few of the doctrines mentioned on page 104 and how these doctrines affect how we respond to life and our circumstances.
7. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 13

1. In your own words, define the church and why we need her.
2. What's the difference between the visible and invisible church?
3. What are some characteristics to look for in a faithful church?
4. How would you describe your participation in a local church? If you haven't joined one, what's hindering you?
5. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 14

1. What's something new you learned about Bible study tools and resources after reading this chapter?
2. What does it mean to be "Bible dependent" rather than "resource dependent," and why does it matter?
3. How does the Holy Spirit help us understand the Bible? What does it look like to depend on Him as we study?
4. Which tools and resources have you found most helpful as you've studied the Bible?
5. What are some new tools and resources you'll commit to trying within the next few weeks?
6. What stood out most to you from this chapter?

Chapter 15

1. What patterns do you notice among any of the books?
2. Which books are you most intrigued by? Which are the least intriguing? Discuss your answer.
3. What stood out most to you about the Old Testament books?
4. What stood out most to you about the New Testament books?