

Alpha Questions
Week 5, Session 6
“Why and How Should I Read the Bible?”

REMEMBER: Faith comes through HEARING THE WORD OF CHRIST. Make sure they hear God’s Word(s) more than ours!

1. To date, how much exposure have you had to the Bible? How many of you have not read the Bible to any degree before the Alpha Course? Have you been surprised by what is in it and/or your ability to relate to it?
2. The Bible says that faith *comes* by hearing and hearing by the Word of Christ. (**Romans 10:17, p.1048**) How would you say that your increased knowledge of the Bible is affecting you in terms of your worldview/beliefs/philosophy of life or feelings and emotions?
3. Has there ever been a time in your life where you have turned to the Bible and experienced a sense of the presence of God through it? If yes, please explain. If not, would you like to? (*Here is a good time to tell stories of your own, where God has met you through the Word. Use the Word as you do*)
4. Take them through a passage(s) in the New Testament (consider these below) and use the thoughts at the end of this session of the Alpha manual to help them experience how to read the Scripture.
 - **Mark 10:17-31 (Page 938) Rich Young Ruler**
 - What do they believe Jesus is saying here?
 - Ask each person to put themselves in the place of the RYR? How would they feel if they were he?
 - Does it make it more or less clear that our good works, commandment and rule keeping will never commend us to a holy God?
 - Great opportunity here to re-introduce and introduce Scriptures of grace alone by faith alone. **Ephesians 2:8-9 (p.1079); Titus 3:4-7 (p.1100)**
 - If, let's just say, you believe Jesus here, what would it make sense to do if you were concerned about life in the Dash and the Line?
 - **Jn. 3:1-8 (P. 984) Jesus & Nicodemus:** You MUST be B.A. *or* you CANNOT see the K of God.
 - **Luke 7:36-50 (P. 957) Jesus, the prostitute & Simon the Pharisee.** (He who has been forgiven much loves much...)
5. There are study materials at their disposal as a Bible Application on their smart phone.
 - **You version** Bible app. will give reading options, voice and various translations. (Feel free to take them through this phone app. at end of night)
 - **Library Card App and Hoopla App.**
 - **ESV Study Bible is one of the best out there to help in understanding**
 - There are numerous books they can search the web for to purchase (www.christianbook.com) or a Christian book store.
6. Frank mentioned that we fit into one of **three “C” positions**.
 - Do you remember the three? **Curious, Convinced, Committed**...
 - Do you understand the definition of each of them?
 - What “C” **best** describes you? Why? Would you like it to be different?
 - Has your “C” position changed since Alpha began? How? Why?
 - Frank expanded on the analogy tonight by taking getting into the wheelbarrow out of the realm of a “dare” or a stunt to setting it in the realm of life and death. How did you feel about that?

7. **Read Matthew 7:24-25 (p.901)** Therefore, everyone who hears my words and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house upon the rock...What does this tell us about the importance of “ingesting” and maintaining the truths of the Scripture?