

August 3, 2025

## Small Group Guide: Is the Bible Still Relevant?

### Opening Question:

- What's your personal experience with the Bible? How often do you read it, and what role does it play in your life?

### Key Takeaways:

1. The Bible continues to be the world's best-selling book, with over 100 million copies sold or given away annually.
2. The Bible has the power to change lives, as evidenced by testimonies from figures like Earl (the Anglican Vicar), C.S. Lewis, Lee Strobel, and Josh McDowell.
3. Scripture itself testifies to its own greatness and life-changing impact (Psalm 19:7-11, Hebrews 4:12-13, 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2).
4. The Bible provides both general revelation (evidence of God's existence) and special revelation (knowledge of who God is and His desire for relationship with us).
5. The Bible's relevance lies in its revelation of God's character and His love for humanity.

### Discussion Questions:

1. How would you respond to someone who claims the Bible is outdated or irrelevant?
2. Share a time when a specific Bible passage or story impacted your life in a meaningful way.
3. How does the idea of the Bible as "living and active" (Hebrews 4:12) challenge or encourage you?
4. In what ways does the Bible's revelation of God's character provide hope in your daily life?
5. How does understanding the Bible as God's "love letter" to humanity change your perspective on reading it?

### Practical Applications:

1. Commit to a regular Bible reading plan. Consider using the YouVersion Bible App for guidance and accountability.
2. Choose one of the Gospel accounts (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John) to read through in the next month.

3. Memorize a key verse from the sermon (e.g., 2 Timothy 3:16-17 or Hebrews 4:12) and reflect on its meaning throughout the week.
4. Partner with another group member to share insights and encouragement from your Bible reading.
5. Attend the upcoming Sunday School series on the Book of Isaiah to gain a deeper understanding of the Bible's big picture story.

#### Closing Reflection:

Take a few moments to silently reflect on how you can make Bible reading a more integral part of your daily life. Share one specific step you plan to take this week to engage more deeply with Scripture.

#### Prayer:

Close the session by praying for each other, asking God to increase your love for His Word and to reveal Himself more fully through your study of the Bible.