

## Biblical Letters

Title: How To Read The Bible: Biblical Letters

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-17

### Discussion Questions

1. Today we are jumping back into an old sermon series we first started about a year and a half ago but never finished. It was called “How to Read the Bible.” Back then there was a two-week sermon series on understanding Biblical Narrative, then four months ago we did another sermon on Biblical Poetry. Today we will focus on Biblical Letters. What were your earliest experiences like reading the Bible? Was it helpful or frustrating? Why?
2. Most people just open up the Bible and start reading, giving little to no thought to what kind of literature is being read and how that should help us with interpretation. This is fine to start with, but it can be a frustrating place to stay. Reading in this way can be really unfortunate because while the Bible is accessible, it’s also complex. Are there any parts of the Bible that you struggle to understand? What makes them so difficult?
3. Of the twenty-seven books of the New Testament twenty-one of them are letters. So as Christians understanding how to read Biblical Letters is extremely important. Do you find Biblical Letters easy or hard to understand? Why do you think that is?
4. The New Testament Letters were written to address specific issues that were going on in church communities in the first century world. But they also have a timeless ability to speak words of life and love to all Christians throughout history. This is truly an amazing thing! When seeking to understand a Biblical Letter how much time and effort do you put into understanding the historical context of the letter? Do you find this kind of study helpful? Why or why not?