

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. What did you learn about the Bible tonight that you didn’t know before? 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) 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?
 - How do our guests feel about this passage just being who they are?
 - 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.

- 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?
- **John 3:1-8 (P. 984)** Jesus & Nicodemus: You MUST be BA. CANNOT see the K of God.
 - **Luke 7: 36-50 (P. 957)** Jesus, the prostitute and Simon the Pharisee
5. Make them aware of study materials that they can have 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)
 - A couple of good web sources are www.crosswalk.com and www.biblegateway.com
 - There are numerous books they can search the web for to purchase (www.christianbook.com) or a Christian bookstore.
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. Praying the Scriptures back to God. This could be a good segue into next week, *How and Why Do I Pray?* Session 5. (This will be a question in next week’s session as well.)