

# THE 7 BIG QUESTIONS

## Discussion Guide

### 6

## Session Six:

### Is the Bible Reliable?

#### 1. Icebreaker

- Share about a time you got lost (on a trip, driving, hiking, etc.). Did you have a guide (map, GPS, friend)? How did you finally find the way?
- Why do you think people today spend billions of dollars on self-help books, podcasts, or online “gurus”?

#### 2. The Need for a Guide

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- What does this passage say about the Bible’s purpose in our lives?
- How do you normally look for answers when you face life decisions (Google, friends, prayer, Scripture, etc.)?
- Why do you think we often treat the Bible like “vegetables” (we know it’s good for us, but we pass)?

#### 3. Is the Bible Reliable?

Question 1: Has the Bible changed over time?

- The New Testament has over 24,000 ancient copies, many within 50–100 years of the originals, with 99.5% accuracy.
- Compare that to Caesar, Plato, or Homer.

Discussion:

- How does this evidence affect your confidence in the Bible?
- Why do you think God might have preserved His Word with such accuracy?

Question 2: Could the stories be fake?

Read Luke 3:1-3

- Luke names rulers, regions, and dates that history and archaeology confirm.
- Archaeology (Pilate inscription, Pool of Bethesda, Dead Sea Scrolls, King David inscription) continues to validate the Bible.

## Discussion:

- What stands out to you about how archaeology confirms Scripture?
- Why is it significant that many of the apostles died for what they claimed to have seen?
- Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-8. Why does Paul's early creed matter for the reliability of the resurrection story?

**4. If It's True, Then What?**

- Afshin Ziafat's testimony shows that the Bible is not only historically accurate but life-changing.
- Afshin lost his earthly father but gained a deeper relationship with his heavenly Father.

## Discussion:

- How does Afshin's story encourage or challenge your own faith journey?
- What keeps people (including us) from actually reading the Bible even if they believe it's reliable?
- What difference would it make if you started treating the Bible as your daily "guide" rather than just a book of facts?

**5. Application & Takeaway**

- This week, commit to reading the Gospel of John.
- Before stress or discouragement hits, open God's Word first.
  - Feeling weak? → 2 Corinthians 12:9
  - Feeling shame? → Romans 8:1
  - Feeling discouraged? → Joshua 1:9

Group Challenge: Check in with one another midweek and share one verse that encouraged you.

**6. Prayer**

- Thank God for preserving His Word.
- Ask for deeper hunger to read Scripture daily.
- Pray for courage to trust the Bible as our guide, even when it costs something.