

# Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: **THE GOOD BOOK - Part 2**

## Read It!

September 25, 2016



## Connect

**\*What is 1 thing you're Thankful for today? \*What is 1 thing we don't know about you yet?**

## Sunday Message Feedback

**\*Did anyone attend Hearing God or Prayer Summit? If you did, how was your experience?**

1. a. **Have you ever had to follow confusing instructions or directions?** Share your experience.  
b. **What is one of the best books** (excluding the Bible) **that you have ever read?** What made it so good?
2. **READ [Psalm 19:7-11](#) & Open in Prayer.**  
**\*What impacted you from Sunday's message by [Pastor Shawn](#)?**  
: What challenged or encouraged you, and why?  
: What can you apply to your faith & life this week? How?
3. **YOU, ME & the B.I.B.L.E.**  
*We may have different experience, knowledge & understanding of the Bible, but we all have room to learn and grow in these areas and our application -- encouraging one another in the process.*
  - a. **When were you first introduced to the Bible and Who introduced you to it?**  
(as a Child, Youth or Adult...)  
(through Parents/Grandparents, Sunday-School, Church, Camp, Youth Group, College, Neighbor, Friend, Workplace, Internet...)
  - b. **What percentage % of the Bible would you say you've read?** 0%-25%-50%-75%-100%...
  - c. **What kind of Bible do you currently use?** (translation, study bible...)
4. Statistics show that most people don't or have never read the Bible, yet it is still the best-selling & most translated book year after year. **Why do you think the Bible is so popular?**
5. **Do you find it hard to read the Bible?** Why or why not?  
**Shawn gave some steps on how to read and interpret the Bible:**  
{Read it, Get a Modern Translation, Start with Jesus and follow the science and principles of interpretation (Hermeneutics)}
  - a. **Had you ever heard the word "Hermeneutics" before this message?**  
Do you remember the definition of Hermeneutics? (It is the science of interpretation)
  - b. **Do you think the Bible is open to people's own interpretation?** Why/why not?
  - c. What is the danger when we choose to interpret the Bible with our own views, opinions and ideas?
6. **Below is the science of Hermeneutics, followed by the Hermeneutical principles for interpretation that Shawn walked us through.**  
*(Ensure that your Group has a printed copy of this, or access to it through our church app)*

**Read this out to the Group and then ask - "Do you think the Bible could become easier to understand if people followed the science and principles or Hermeneutics?"**

\*How could following these principles help you grow in your Bible reading and understanding?

\*How would you practically go about applying these principles?

\*What are some practical helps you could look into? Discuss.

### **THE SCIENCE OF HERMENEUTICS**

**First**, translate the language. You should study the grammar and vocabulary and translate it accurately according to the rules of that language. (which has been done for us through translators)

**Second**, determine the literary genre. In other words, is it poetry, history, science, narrative, fiction, biography? Interpret it according to its genre. You don't take poetry as a scientific treatise.

**Thirdly**, put the document into its historical and cultural context, so that you understand the setting.

**Fourth**, if you are interpreting a section within a larger section, you make sure you aren't taking it out of its wider context.

And **fifthly**, through it all, you seek out the author's intent, the author's purpose, the author's goal.

### **PRINCIPLES OF INTERPRETATION**

**Always try and find out what the authors intent was**

**NOTES:** If you want to know what a particular part of the Bible means, the primary goal is to find out what the writer wanted it to mean. Find out what it *originally* meant. And usually that's pretty clear.

**Always try and interpret the verse in light of its context.**

**NOTES:** Taking a verse out of context is one of the most common mistakes people make with the Bible. Remember that a verse is part of a chapter, and a chapter is part of a book, and a book a part of a library of books. Don't isolate a verse from its wider context.

If you read something that makes you scratch your head, read everything the Bible says about it, and let it fill out the picture of that individual statement or teaching. That's a lot of what I do with every message – bringing everything the Bible says about a subject together. It gives you a holistic view of what Scripture teaches. Which leads to the final principle.

**Always let Scripture interpret Scripture**

**NOTES:** If you want to know what a particular verse or chapter might be trying to say about marriage, or parenting, or money, or sex, the best way to be sure you're getting it is to make sure that the way you think you're getting it lines up with everything else the Bible says about that subject.

## **Application**

*You may find it strange that this Discussion on the Bible didn't actually include much Scripture reading. That is your task this week – get reading (even a lil each day) and we'll share our experience next Group.*

**\*What is one aspect of the Bible you would like to learn more about or grow in, in terms of application?**

**\*Start or Continue *The Good Book Bible Reading Plan.***

Make a commitment as a group to use it in your personal devotional time and come each week willing to share what Jesus showed you, or with a question or how you have been challenged.

\*If you did not get a Bible Reading plan they are available at Guest Services or you can download one from the church [website](#) or App.

=====

**Prayer** \*Allow 3min for each aspect of Prayer (12min Total).

**How can we pray for you in terms of your Bible reading & application this week?**

- Praise** : *Speak out words of praise & thanks to God for Who He Is & What He has Done...*  
**Repent** : *Confess & Repent of any attitudes & actions...and receive His forgiveness*  
**Ask** : *Ask specifically for your Needs and the Needs of Others in your Group*  
**Yield** : *Surrender, Listen, Trust & Obey/Act*

=====

**NEXT GROUP**

Our next Life Group meeting will be at \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ will bring Snack.  
We need 2 people to share their story (5min version) with us next time we meet 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

=====

**Coming Up at Main Street**

**October 1**  
**MAN BREAKFAST** – 8am-9:30am. Main Street Café & Hall.  
Tickets will be available in the foyer on Sunday morning – for \$5.

**October 2**  
**PARTNERSHIP CLASS** – 6pm-8pm. Main Street Chapel.  
\*Learn about Partnership (Membership) at Main Street Church.  
Info & Registration: [www.mainstreetchurch.ca/partnership](http://www.mainstreetchurch.ca/partnership)

**October 9** (Thanksgiving Sunday)  
**SPECIAL OFFERING** for our **Hunger to Hope Campaign**.  
\*Hunger to Hope is our annual Christmas Hamper Campaign. Our goal this season is to raise \$30,000 to provide 100 Hamper to families in need in our church and community (with special focus on McCammon & Central Elementary Schools).

**October 20-21**  
**SET FREE Retreat** – Friday night & All-Day Saturday. Main Street Chapel.  
Info & Registration: [www.mainstreetchurch.ca/set-free](http://www.mainstreetchurch.ca/set-free)

=====

## NOTES/RESOURCES for The Good Book Series

**\*Pick up one of our Bible Reading Plans at church.**

### **\*Other Bible Resources**

**Websites** – *Bible Translations, Reading Plans, Commentaries, Videos, Audio-Bibles*

**Bible Gateway:** [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

**OpenBible:** [www.openbible.info](http://www.openbible.info)

**The Bible Project:** [www.jointhebibleproject.com](http://www.jointhebibleproject.com) / <https://www.youtube.com/user/jointhebibleproject>

**Bible Study Tools:** [www.biblestudytools.com](http://www.biblestudytools.com)

**My Bible Plans:** [www.mybibleplans.com](http://www.mybibleplans.com)

**Foundations Daily Devotional:** [www.mysouthland.com/devotional-resources](http://www.mysouthland.com/devotional-resources)

**Faith Comes by Hearing:** [www.faithcomesbyhearing.com/audio-bibles/resources](http://www.faithcomesbyhearing.com/audio-bibles/resources)

**Apps** (for iPhone & Android) – *Bible Translations, Reading Plans, Commentaries, Videos, Audio-Bibles*

**YouVersion Bible App:** [www.youversion.com](http://www.youversion.com)

**Bible Gateway App:** [www.biblegateway.com/app](http://www.biblegateway.com/app)

**Read Scripture App:**

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.youme4ever.readscripture>

iTunes: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/read-scripture/id1067865974?mt=8>

**Books** (available through Amazon.ca & Christians Bookstores)

**How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth** – by Gordon D. Fee & Douglas Stuart

**How to Read the Bible Book by Book: A Guided Tour** – by Gordon D. Fee & Douglas Stuart