

An Introduction to the Bible

Do you believe that God's word has the power to change your life? Why or why not? Will you let it? Why or why not? Do you believe that there is a truth about life and about God that is bigger than your personal opinions and bigger than other peoples' individual issues?

The Early World

Do you trust God? Are you more like Adam and Eve or Noah? Do you go to God in the sunny times *and* the rainy times? In what areas of your life do you struggle with trusting God? In what areas are you tempted to chose your way over God's way? Do you trust God with your future? With your family relationships? With your social interactions? With your health?

The Patriarchs

So, how far are you willing to go for God, *really*? What are you willing to do for Him? Are you willing to, say, work in a ministry but not be open to the priesthood or religious life? Are you willing to, for instance, write a paper about pro-life for school but not wear a pro-life t-shirt or pray in front of an abortion clinic? Are you willing to invite a friend to church but not end the friendship if that person does not treat you in a holy way? How far are you willing to go for God?

Egypt and Exodus, Conquest and Judges

Do you feel like God wants to do great things through you? Do you feel worthy of God's love? Why do so many teenagers struggle with self-esteem if we are made in God's likeness? Do you believe that God's plans for your life are better than yours? Have you ever fallen into the trap of thinking you were too sinful or too unworthy for God to use you in heroic ways? Is what God wants for you the same as what you want for yourself? If God called you to do something that made you uncomfortable, would your first inclination be like Moses? To give excuses, to ask him to choose someone else? Or would you be like Rahab? Would you not worry about your past transgressions? Could you be like Ruth?

Royal Kingdom/Divided Kingdom

Is your life about you or about God? Do you think most people want fame, power, and fortune for their own glory or for God's? What dictates your actions and reactions most days, your wants and desires or God's? Are these the same? Whose will are you living? Is it "*thy will be done*" or "*my will be done*"? Are you more like David, the courageous warrior for God, or David, the guy who was tempted and sinned? Or are you a bit of both? Do you feel like God has allowed bad things to happen in your life and thus helped you to rely more on him? Or have these times driven you away? What is the "Goliath" in your life? What are your "five stones"?

The Exile, the Return, and the Revolt

Do you ever feel "forgotten by God?" Do you ever feel like you are a slave to your desires and temptations? Have you ever felt like a slave to others' opinions? What do you need help with? Are you willing to go to God and ask Him to free you (if not, why not)? Do you doubt that He will free you? Do you doubt that he hears you or that He cares about you? How are you like Esther? How are you like Daniel? How do you find the courage you need?

Jesus and the Gospels: The Messianic Fulfillment

"How well do you know Jesus" is not a question based upon *facts* but upon *faith*: it's not about saving information in your head but about having your soul saved by Jesus, the Head of the Body. However, since Jesus became human and lived amongst us, we like to have a picture of him in our heads. It somehow helps us. So, what is your portrait of Jesus?

- * What color are Jesus' eyes when you look into them?
- * Is there any gray in His beard?
- * What does His voice sound like?
- * What do His hands look like?
- * Describe His smile.
- * What is He wearing when you pray to Him?

The Early Church and the Church Today

The entire Christian life is about learning how to surrender to God. The Christian life, the Gospel, the Holy Spirit, calls us to change. Honestly, are you open to whatever God wants for you and from you? Is it about His will or your own? Is it about His plan or your own? What are you will to change? Are you willing to change your prayer? Are you willing to change your approach to God? Are you willing to read/pray Scripture every week? Every day? Are you willing to change your plans for "your future?"