

HOME GROUP

Leader Guide



OBJECTIONS

THE BOOK

SEPTEMBER 27, 2015



SHARE THE VISION (<10 minutes)

As you start your group time, please be sure to discuss the following important topics listed below. This is key to keeping OneLifers informed.

GET TO KNOW ONELIFE LUNCH

Are you new to OneLife, and want to know more about how OneLife started and our vision to reach Knoxville? Sign up for the Get To Know OneLife lunch after the second service on the following dates: in Halls – October 4th and in Powell – October 11th. Mark “Get To Know OneLife” on your connection card on Sundays or email us at mail@onelifeknox.com for more information.

TEST DRIVE – A VOLUNTEER INTEREST MEETING

Ready to become a OneLife volunteer? Sign up for Test Drive, a volunteer interest meeting, on October 4th. For more information and to sign up visit www.onelifeknox.com/volunteer and sign up!

Already a volunteer? Help others get involved on a volunteer team by inviting others to join you as a volunteer. All you need to do is invite them to Test Drive in October. Sign them up at www.onelifeknox.com/volunteer today!

KEY SCRIPTURES FOR THE WEEK:

HEBREWS 4:12 (NLT)

¹² For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM HANDOUT (35 Minutes)

Jog Your Memory:

Bottom Line: A perfect God created you and desires a relationship

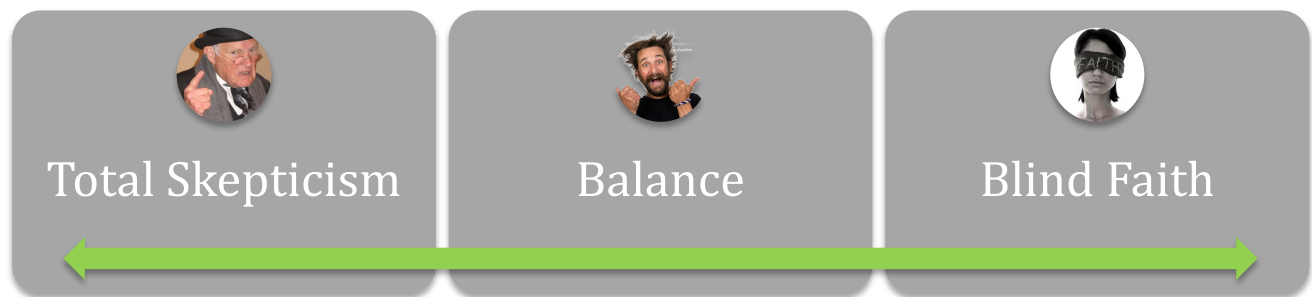
- The Bible is the best selling book of all time.
- It's the most debated book of all time.
- It's the most shop lifted book of all time.
- It's comprised of 66 different books (or writings), by 40 different authors, and written over a 1500 year time span...
- Despite the diversity of authors and the time span of it's contents, it has one central message throughout – a perfect God created you and desires a relationship.
- Evidence of the Bible's accuracy, authenticity and authority:
 - Prophetic Accuracy
 - Historical Accuracy
 - Scientific Accuracy
- Approach the Bible with trust over suspicion.
- Always start with the Gospel

- 1. Are you (or someone you know) a naturally skeptical person? Give the group an example of what it's like to carry a conversation with this kind of person. Are you (or someone you know) a naturally trusting – or even gullible – person? Give an example of a conversation with this person? What are the pros and cons of each personality type? Remember to keep your answers light hearted in nature!**

Group leaders, open up your discussion time by having a little fun with this question. We all know people who are a little bit gullible or who are so black-and-white that they'll believe anything you say! What are some ways that you've had fun with these personality types throughout your life? We've all had a teacher or grandfather say "Look, you got something on your shirt!" and then hit your nose with their finger! What are some other examples of what it's like when people have skeptical personalities or trusting personalities?

2. **When it comes to the Bible, do you find yourself approaching with a little skepticism or unquestioned trust? If you were raised in or around the church, what were you taught about questioning the Bible? How would you describe a good balance between questioning and trusting, what role does faith play in this balance? In your own opinion, when does either end of the spectrum go too far, how?**

The heart of this question really gets at whether it's "ok" to approach scripture with questions and doubts! Everyone in the group is going to be on a different place along the spectrum, so the purpose of our group discussion isn't to formulate "right answers" or consensus of opinion. It will be rare for someone in your group truly fall at the extreme left or right of the spectrum, most people will be skeptics who really want to have their questions answered or people who approach the Bible with trust, but are willing to admit that they have questions or that there are scriptures that are tough to understand/accept.



3. **Read Hebrews 4:12. When thinking about your purpose of taking the gospel to the people where you live, work and play, why is it important that God's Word is alive and powerful? Penetrating your soul and spirit, judging the thoughts and attitudes of your heart? Have you experienced the Bible in this way, how so?**

God's Word is not confined to a distant past but comes to us now with freshness, power, and clarity. God's Word judges the ideas and thoughts of the heart. It reaches into the center of a person's being and correctly perceives motives and intentions. God's Word lays bare any faithlessness, disobedience, and indifference or complacency in advancing toward spiritual maturity. Bible study is one of the main ways God speaks to Christians. It is the way we learn about God and His will for our lives. Bible study provides the spiritual food for growing believers into Christlikeness.

Ask a follow up question: "What specific things help you study God's Word on a regular basis? What specific things have helped you?"

- 4. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. What similarities do you see in this passage and the passage Hebrews 4? What are the benefits of reading God's Word? Can you be equipped to change the world without being rooted in God's Word? Why not? What passages from the Bible have impacted you? Who could you share this part of your story with?**

In his encouragement to Timothy, the pastor of the church at Ephesus, Paul instructed him to hold firmly to what he had learned in Scripture, which he had studied since he was young. The task which God had for Paul and Timothy was rooted in the authority of the Scriptures. Because the Bible is our primary tool for growing as Jesus' disciples, it is crucial that we believe the Word of God is totally accurate, free of error, and inspired by God Himself. That's not to say that we aren't allowed have questions or even experience some doubt over tough scriptures, it just means that we are to approach scripture (and Jesus) with humility and trust, letting Him change our hearts!

Additional Bible Study Resources:

YouVersion Bible App (iPhone and Android) – *See reading plans*
www.shereadstruth.com - companion Android and iPhone apps
www.hereadstruth.com - companion Android and iPhone apps

END YOUR TIME PRAYING TOGETHER (10 Minutes)