

This is the Word of the Lord Week 1 Message Based Curriculum

Opening

- Begin with a brief welcome and prayer to set the tone for the group time.
- Introduce the theme: **Biblical literacy is** the ability to know the Scriptures and the God who inspired them, and to rightly interpret and apply its meaning to our lives in ways that shape us into the image of Jesus.

Discussion Questions

1. Getting to know each other:

- What was your relationship to the Bible growing up?

2. Personal assessment: Ayren opened the message this weekend by asking us questions about our relationship with the Word of God. We're going to go through those questions together and give you a chance to assess yourself.

- **Leader:** Read through each of these 10 questions and tell everyone to write their answers down or type them out in a note on their phone. Tell them to rate each question with an answer from 1 (least) – 10 (most). When you're done, ask if anyone feels comfortable sharing their final "score" (it'll be between 1-100). As the leader, be mindful and sensitive to where people are in their journey. Reassure them that this assessment doesn't mean they are or aren't a good or bad Christian, but it's used to identify potential areas of growth or ways they can help others grow.
- **On a scale of 1-10...**
 1. The Bible is important to me
 2. I am consistent in my time spent in the Word.
 3. I am confident in my ability to read and understand Scripture.
 4. I can sense the Holy Spirit when I read the Bible.
 5. I have read the Bible in its entirety.
 6. I believe (or want to believe) everything the Bible says.
 7. When I read the Bible, it results in tangible life change, relatively quickly.
 8. If I had to describe or explain to Bible to someone who doesn't know anything about it, I'd be comfortable and confident doing so.
 9. I am able to and consistently challenge myself to memorize Scripture.
 10. When I read Scripture, I often find something that "bothers" me.
 11. I feel confident in my ability to lead others through the Bible and help them read it in a life-changing way.

3. Time in the Word Together

- Read **2 Kings 22-23:30 together** as a group. It's a long passage of Scripture, but it's necessary for understanding details of the story.
 1. What stood out to you from the story of King Josiah?
 2. What traits of King Josiah do you wish to be true of you?

4. Remorse, Repent, Reform, Repeat

- In the message this weekend, Ayren talked about this process we must go through as believers who interact with the Word of God on a regular basis.
 1. Which step of this 4-step process comes most naturally to you? Which one is the hardest? Why? What would it take to grow in your weak areas and continue in your strongest areas?

5. Group Accountability

- As a small group, we are responsible for one another's spiritual formation (Hebrews 10:24-25). What tangible steps are we going to take to grow in the Word together?
- Suggestions:
 1. Decide on a Bible reading plan together (YouVersion and Hope In Real Life Apps have great resources for this)
 2. Have everyone determine a time of day that would be best for them to read their Bibles. Partner everyone up and set reminders to text your partner and check on them during their Bible reading time.
 3. Determine a verse you want to memorize together. Each week you can continue to work on it together.

Biblical Literacy Tool for the Week:

- Each week, we will give you one tool for growing in Biblical Literacy. This week, you can watch and discuss this video from The Bible Project together:
 - **The Bible Project: What is the Bible? (YouTube) [5:47]** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ak06MSETeo4>



Close with Prayer Time

- Either break into pairs or smaller groups or as a group share and pray for one another.
 - **Pray for us to grow in our knowledge, hunger, and desire for the Word of God.**