

Flourish Conference - Bible Reading One to One

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Our goal for today – to train you in this, so you can train others in reading the bible one to one

Please discuss in pairs:

- What experience have you had in reading the Bible one-to-one?
- Why do we do the hard work of reading the Bible one- to-one?
- What issues do you expect you may encounter in reading the Bible one –to-one?

A. Why read the Bible one to one?

Read 2 Timothy 3:16 – unpack what this looks like in one-to-one Bible reading.

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:1-16 - what can you see about Paul’s ministry?

B. Things to consider

What are the benefits of reading the Bible and praying one-to-one?

1. How frequently would you meet? Why?
2. How long do you continue meeting? Why?
3. What do we study?
4. What else happens when you meet?
5. How do we begin reading the Bible one to one?

C. Who do I read the bible with one to one? (From the Reformer, Martin Bucer)

1. Not yet Christians
2. New believers
3. People growing in faith
4. Mature believers, who are self starters

D. What are the Contexts ?

Spontaneous conversations -----meeting occasionally-----meeting regularly

E. Encouraging Pointers

- Don't wait until your Christian life is *under control* before you minister to others.
- Ministry is a skill which you grow in ...
- Be transparent...I'm not ok, you're not ok, but that's ok
- Be aware of gender....

F. How do we read the bible together?

- Verse by Verse
- Just for Starters Studies
- Matthias Media Guides
- COMA
- QUIT

Discuss in a group of 3 – which of these may be helpful in your context?

Prayer**G. Preparing a passage**

- Observation
- Interpretation
- Application

H. What issues do you expect you may encounter when reading the Bible one-to-one?**I. Conversations:**

- ask open ended questions
- develop curiosity about people
- ask about experiences the person has had you don't have to know everything....
- empathy
- be unshockable

J. Summary:

Please discuss in a different pair

1. What are the unique advantages of one-to-one ministry?
2. Is there anything which makes you hesitant about doing it?
3. What changes might you have to make to your Christian program to do this?

Resources:

1. *One To One - A Discipleship Handbook*, S. De Witt, Authentic Media, 2006.
2. *Builders and Fools*, D. Tidball, IVP, 2000.
3. <http://www.matthiasmedia.com/Samples/otobr/OTOBR-Sheets-for-copying-US-letter.pdf>
4. <https://www.thegoodbook.com.au/one2one>
5. *One 2 One*, A. Cornes, The Good Book Company, USA, 2003.
6. *One 2 One - 15 Minute Bible Studies to Share with a Friend*, W.M.York, IVP, USA, 2017.

Appendix 1: Some areas you could cover in initial meeting(s)

Check that the person is a believer – go through core of the gospel.

- what difference does it make to you, now you are a follower of Jesus?
- if you died tonight, why would God allow you into heaven?
- how can you be sure that you are saved?

How did you become a Christian?

- what does it mean to you, to live as a Christian?
- did particular people help you? What were the most helpful things they did?
- did some reading help? What did you find helpful?
- how has becoming a Christian changed your life?
- how have family/ friends reacted?

Who/what have been influences on you since then?

- what effect have they had? Why?
- what is your pattern of Bible reading & prayer? Or how do you keep your relationship with God in good shape?

Which church are you a member of?

- why did you choose this church?
- what are you learning about/challenged by?
- what are you involved in? & why?
- what do you understand by ministry?

Ongoing spiritual growth

- what are some areas you are praying about now?
- what are you reading in your personal Bible study? What are some favourite parts of the Bible & why?
- how are your conversations with not-yet-Christian friends?

Appendix 2: Areas to cover with mature believers*How is your relationship with God?**What goals do you have for ministry?*

- what areas you need to grow in? Have you done any training in evangelism /follow up of a new Christian etc?
- how do you learn best? eg observation, reading, structured course, doing

What skills do you need to develop?

- how can you do this?

What priorities will you need to change?

- study, ministry, job, friends, family?
- do you need to change the way you do things eg work, study, family, ministry, friendships etc.

How is the balance between giving out and receiving ministry/teaching etc?

- who specifically are you encouraging?
- what areas do you talk about and how is it going?
- who is encouraging you and how? Do you need to develop some mentor relationships?
- how could you do this and with whom?

.....the rising biblical illiteracy in Western culture means that the Bible is increasingly a closed book, even to many Christians. As the culture drifts away from its former rootedness in a Judeo-Christian understanding of God, history, truth, right and wrong, purpose, judgement, forgiveness, and community, so the Bible seems stranger and stranger. For precisely the same reason, it becomes all the more urgent to read it and reread it, so that at least confessing Christians preserve the heritage and outlook of a mind shaped and informed by Holy Scripture.

D.A.Carson *For the Love of God*