

A Workman
Approved



CONTENT

Introduction	5
Expectations on Evaluation & Planning Sheets	8
How to use the Evaluation Sheets?	9
Tips for Bible Talk Workers	10
Tips for a Great Bible Talk	13
Bible Talk Themes	16
References	75
APPENDIX A: My Bible Talk Evaluation and Planning Sheets	
APPENDIX B: Discipling Lessons	

INTRODUCTION

What makes up an awesome bible talk group that pleases God? Even for those of us who have been leading other disciples for many years, the answer to this question can be vague. However, we know what it is not.

A bible talk group is not a club or clique, even though our group members are close and share similar needs. It is not a corporate organization, nor is it static; rather, bible talk groups are designed to multiply themselves. Although we study and use God's word, bible talks are not classes, and neither are they just a bible study. And though we care for one another and help each other take a stand against the world, bible talk groups are not therapy groups, nor bands of renegades.

A bible talk group, through its small enough size, exists for the following purposes:

To seek and save the lost, thus bringing Jesus' message to the masses and birthing into more groups.



To allow the power of God through prayer and our discipling of one another to help each disciple mature in Christ.

To allow disciples a conducive platform to actively show love to one another and the lost by practicing vulnerability.

So, now that we know what an effective bible talk group looks like, here comes the hard part: finding out how to get there. To this end, we have come up with this training booklet to help you to become a workman approved by God, able to handle God's word correctly and powerfully (2 Timothy 2:15) as you lead your groups.

This booklet includes two approaches in helping you to be a workman approved. The first approach involves equipping you with the necessary skills and resources to lead effectively. Included herein are a wealth of lessons that can be taught to groups, including evangelistic lessons used in bible talks, as well as discipling lessons used in small "d-group" settings. As you grow in your confidence in handling God's word, you will be able to refine these lessons and come up with even better ones of your own.

The second approach involves evaluation. This is the missing ingredient that stops people both in the world and in the kingdom from truly becoming great. We can have great plans and intentions, but without constant input and counsel, they will fail (Proverbs 15:22). This training booklet helps us learn how to evaluate our groups and our own leadership in a way where, instead of feeling shamed and discouraged, we will feel convicted and challenged to take things higher. The evaluation is also designed in such a way that will involve all the members of the group so that each disciple can take ownership of the group. The body of Christ can only be built up in love by the powering of each group as “each part does its work”. (Ephesians 4:16)

Our prayer is that this training booklet will leave you feeling victorious as you lead your people from strength to strength, winning one soul at a time.

*‘Remember me with favor, my God,
for all I have done for these people.’*

Nehemiah 5:19



Expectations on Evaluation and Planning Sheet

We will be taking the time to do the following exercises:

1. Evaluating our Bible Talks and D-groups.
2. Planning for ways to improve the above two events.

Areas that we would like to evaluate and plan are:

1. Bible Talk (Men & Women combined or separated)

- **M**ission-Focused Through Opportunities.
- **A**tmosphere: fellowship, out-reach and logistics.
- **P**articipation: lesson and personal sharing.

2. Discipling Group

- Atmosphere.
- Vulnerability.
- Love - Buddy System.
- Group Prayer.

Please note that there will be no evaluation forms on the area of Discipling Group though training will be provided.

How to use the Evaluation Sheets?

Here is a sample on how we can use these sheets to evaluate and plan. We shall choose the area of atmosphere in a bible talk, focusing on the logistics as an example.

In the evaluation sheet, it will look something like this:

Logistics

Scale: 1 2 3 4 **5** 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:
Overall decent. Food was great but kids were restless.

Desired Growth:
Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 **8** 9 10

Ways to Improve:
Have 2 parents taking turns to plan activities for kids.

Please refer to Appendix A for the complete set of evaluation forms.



Tips for Bible Talk Workers ¹

Bible talk goals:

- To win people to Christ.
- To edify the Christians – helping them know how to apply God’s word.
- Christians involved need to be regular in attendance and hardworking.
- Christians need to be motivated by the love of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:14).
- Christians should be motivated by love for the lost (Matthew 9:36).

How to get people to the Bible talk:

- Work for the Bible Talk consistently – taking every opportunity to invite.
- Spend time with the people you want to invite.
- Invite and get commitments (“maybes” don’t usually come).
- Follow up and help them to get there.

What kind of atmosphere should there be before the Bible talk begins?

- It should not be quiet and tense or unfriendly.
- It should be friendly and uplifting.
- To be successful, you must be on time (even extra early).
- Introduce your visitors to others and introduce yourself to people you don’t know.
- Keep the conversations going until the leader says it’s time to start.

What is the disciple to do during the Bible talk?

- Affirm the Bible talk message from your personal life.
- Comments should be on the subject and supportive.
- Let the leader lead; do not change the direction of the Bible talk.
- Think at all times, be alert and help your leader.
- Do not condemn any other faith or denominations.
- Do not make your comments too long – be concise.
- Speak up when you talk – speak clearly.
- If you are ignorant of a particular subject, don't feel compelled to comment.
- Don't bring up a new comment when the leader is bringing the study to a close.

How important is unity (team spirit) and how can it be developed?

- Unity is important-everyone must work together to reach people.
- Make special efforts to encourage one another.
- Disciples should expect the best out of one another-like any team.
- Pray daily for one another, as well as for the people being studied with and invited.
- Members need to communicate with each other and with the leader about the people they are sharing with so that the leader is acquainted with needs of visitors.



What to do after the Bible talk is over:

- Plan to stay a few minutes and talk with visitors.
- Set up personal studies with those who are open.
- Be sensitive to your visitors-get them home early so they'll want to come back.
- Have refreshments after the study-so people can stay around and fellowship.

Tips for a Great Bible Talk (notes for the leader) ²

Keep it simple.

- People will generally remember only a few main points of the Bible talk.
- You should be able to express the main point of the Bible talk in one simple sentence.

If possible, stick to just a few scriptures.

- Pick a few passages, and dig into them.
- Visitors feel uncomfortable if they can't find scriptures.
- You will spend more time in study and less time in searching for them.
- People will be excited how much they can learn from just a few passages.

Read the Scriptures in a powerful way.

- Make the passages come alive in the reading and in your description of it.
- Never make the Bible seem dull or boring.
- If possible give a brief background on the scripture (who said it, when it was said, the circumstances) e.g. "Let's look at what Jesus had to say to the Pharisees on the subject of traditions."

Have Fun.

- Many passages and situations in the Bible are comical, have some fun when you talk about them e.g. "Can you imagine what was going through the homeowner's mind as those



four guys were ripping through the roof to lower the paralytic down to Jesus?”.

- Laugh with people and enjoy their comments.
- Don't make the Bible talk “heavy” or “somber”.

Teach with conviction.

- Be convinced that what you are teaching is true and right, and that it will change the lives of your listeners (they need what you have to teach).
- Always leave people with a challenge e.g. “The challenge from the study tonight is to get into the Bible and see what it takes to be a real disciple.”

Make the Bible talk short.

- Thirty to forty-five minutes maximum.
- The mind cannot absorb what the bottom cannot endure.
- If there are children, they will climb the walls if the study goes too long.
- If the Bible talk is an all-night ordeal, visitors will not be back.
- It is much better to leave people wishing the Bible talk had gone longer.
- Leave a few points un-discussed to talk about in fellowship afterward.

Make the opening fun.

- Play a game of some kind (Name That Tune, Liar's Club, etc.).
- Show a video clip, play a song.
- Read a newspaper article or an editorial column.
- Read some interesting facts, some articles from the web, etc.

-
- Go around and ask a non-threatening question of everyone (e.g. “If you could travel anywhere free, where would you go?”).
 - Use props (e.g. a mustard seed to illustrate faith).
 - Be fun and creative.
 - Don’t start the Bible talk with, “Let’s all turn over to Isaiah...”

Set the atmosphere.

- As the leader, you determine the atmosphere in the room.
- Make sure the room is well-lit.
- Teach the group members to be friendly.
- Have great refreshments.
- Occasionally have a potluck dinner before the Bible talk.
- Make everyone feels at home.
- Visitors are the focus of your conversation until they go home.
- Avoid church lingo (e.g. “D-time,” “Discipler,” “Devo” etc.)

Pay attention to detail.

- Does everyone know when and where you are meeting?.
- Does everyone have a ride?.
- Be sure there are Bibles for anyone who has not brought one.
- The members should be there fifteen minutes early to help clean, set up, give rides, buy refreshments, babysit kids, greet visitors as they arrive and whatever needs doing.
- Clean your house or apartment (single brothers, are you paying attention?).



BIBLE TALKS ACCORDING TO THEMES:

OBEDIENCE TO THE WORD

Bible Talk #1: Warnings

Bible Talk #2: The Talkers and the Doers

Bible Talk #11: Jehoiakim Burns the Scrolls

Bible Talk #13: Listen and Do

DREAMS & HOPES

Bible Talk #15: Hope

Bible Talk #19: Pursuit of Happiness

KINGDOM/THE CHURCH

Bible Talk #14: The Value of the Kingdom

SEEKING GOD

Bible Talk #3: Spiritual Blindness

Bible Talk #10: A Life-Changing Journey

DEALING WITH LIFE'S TROUBLES

Bible Talk #16: Build on the Solid Rock

SALVATION

Bible Talk #4: Are You Ready?

Bible Talk #6: Excuses

Bible Talk #7: A Clear Choice

Bible Talk #8: Three Scary Scriptures

HEALING/CHANGE

Bible Talk #5: A Life-Changing Experience

Bible Talk #12: Masks

Bible Talk #18: Faith of the Sick Woman

CHARACTER BUILDING

Bible Talk #9: The Animal Bible Talk

Bible talk #17: Career Night

GOD AND MONEY

Bible Talk #20: Beware of All Kinds of Greed

Bible Talk #21: Becoming Generous in Every Way

Bible Talk #22: Making Wise Choices



Bible Talk #1: Warnings ³

Opening Questions:

Q: What are some of the warnings that we DON'T obey today?

- traffic signs, cigarettes health hazards, skin cancer, etc.

Q: What are some warnings we DO obey?

- poison, electrical charge, beware of the dog, etc ...

Q: What determines whether we listen or not?

- The seriousness of the consequences
- The certainty of consequences
- The immediacy of the consequences

Hebrews 2:1~4

Q: What are some of the warnings in this passage?

- Pay more careful attention to our lives, don't drift away, don't miss salvation.

Q: What can we do to pay more attention to our lives?

- Read the Bible more, confess our sins, ask for help from other people, etc.

Q: Why do you think he uses the word "drift" away rather than zoom away?

- It's a gradual process that typically we are unaware that it's happening.

Matthew 7:15~23

Q: What are some of the warnings here?

- Beware of those prophets. Bear good fruit not bad fruit. Don't just believe in Jesus, do His will.

Q: What are some good fruits? (Physical)

- Apples, bananas, mangoes, grapes.

Q: What are some good spiritual fruit?

- Love, sympathy, humility, winning souls, etc.

Q: What are some bad fruits spiritually?

- Smoking, drinking, lust, racism, pride, etc.

1 Corinthians 10:6~12

Q: What are some of the warnings here?

- Don't idolize things. Don't be sexually immoral. Don't test God.
- Don't grumble against God.
- Be careful if you think you're standing firm.

CONCLUSION:

Will you listen to these warnings we've looked at today?

- The consequences of disobedience are very serious.
- The certainty is beyond question – God does not lie.
- The immediacy is the problem– The consequences only become obvious years from now.



Bible Talk #2: The Talkers and the Doers ⁴

Opening Question:

Q: What is the most amazing thing you've done or seen?

Matthew 21:28~32

- Give introduction to parable & characters.
(Father represents God, Sons represent us & the way we respond when he asks us to do something).

V28

Q: What is involved in working in a vineyard?:

- planting, watering, spraying, insecticide and harvesting, etc.

Q: What is involved in working in the vineyard of God?

- praying, studying the Bible, getting sin out, looking after the poor, evangelism, etc.

V29

Q: Why do people refuse to work in the vineyard of God?

- fear, peer pressure, deceived that they don't have to, say they don't have time, etc.

Q: What are the things that should change our mind if we

- have refused?
- evidences, love for God, scripture, people, fulfillment, etc .

V30

Q: Why will a person say he will but he doesn't?

- hypocrite, people-pleaser, stupid, prideful, has a lot of excuses, etc.

Luke 9:52~62 > Jesus simply does not accept excuses!

Q: How do people today behave like the 2nd son?

- Wear the bangle WWJD but not live right.
- Talk the walk but not walk the walk.
- Getting drunk on Saturday night & singing in church on Sunday morning with a hangover.

Matthew 21:31

Q: Why are the Prostitutes and the Tax collector entering before the Pharisees?

- They are REAL, not RELIGIOUS HYPOCRITES.
- They repented when they saw they were wrong. They changed their minds.

CONCLUSION:

- Jesus mentions "you" 7x in 2 verses because his audience could see what was right for others but not themselves.
- Be careful not to be the 2nd son, full of religious talk but not the right life.
- Be willing to change your mind and start doing the things God wants you to do.



Bible Talk #3: Spiritual Blindness ⁵

Opening Question:

What is the worst physical handicap to you?

Deafness, blindness, being paralyzed, etc.

John 9:1~7 >Physical Blindness

Q: What do you think it would be like to be blind?

- Scared, out of control, insecure, etc.

Q: Now if you were born blind what would it feel like?

- Normal

Q: What do you think it would be like to have your eyes opened for the first time?

- Scary, exciting, amazing, etc.

John 9:13~23 > Spiritual Blindness

Q: Who is spiritually blind here?

- Pharisees, parents (They can't see Jesus as being the Son of God).

Q: Why can they not see Jesus?

- Pharisees - PRIDE (assuming they were right on the Sabbath issue)
- Parents - FEAR - (Pleasing the Jews vs God?)

Q: How can pride blind us to the Truth today?

- Refuse to admit we are wrong, assumptions and disprove the truth.

Q: How does fear blind us to the truth today?

- Consequences scare us, too concerned about what people think of us, etc.

Q: What are some of the truths that people are blinded to today?

- Discipleship, repentance, total commitment, etc.
John 9:24~41 > Spiritually Awake

Q: What enables this man to see the truth?

- Humility, courage, love for God, etc.

CONCLUSION:

- Pride & fear blind us to spiritual truth.
- Decide to be courageous and stand up for what is right.
- Decide to be humble and willing to learn.



Bible Talk #4: Are You Ready? ⁶

Opening Question:

Have you ever been late for something important, or overslept?

Matthew 25:1-13

V1 & 2

Q: What constitutes an earthly Kingdom?

- King, subjects, Law of the Land, etc.
“At the time” (2nd coming) the church will be like this:
- * Bridegroom = Jesus
- * Bridesmaids = us (followers of Jesus) Followers are either WISE or FOOLISH
(After tonight you will know whether you are wise or foolish)
- * Oil = salvation - 5 have salvation and 5 don't.

Q: Why do you think Jesus is telling this parable?

- It serves as a warning for the people to be prepared!!

Q: What distinguishes the wise from the foolish?

- Preparedness

V3 & 4

Q: What do we do to prepare ourselves for exams?

- Read, go over past papers, sacrifice sleep & TV and get help from others, etc.

Q: What has God given us to help us to be prepared for his coming?

- The Bible, people to help us, Jesus Christ's life and our consciences.
- Hardships in life to wake us up, etc.

Q: What prevents us from being prepared?

- Commitment to studies, careers, materialistic gains, relationships that prevent us from serving God, e.g. friends who mock, sexual relationships etc.
- People who teach false doctrine.
- Pride.

V5

Q: How can we be spiritually asleep?

- Going through the motions (church, bible study, prayer) BUT our heart is no longer in it.
- No longer convicted about our sin – we make excuses about it.
- No spiritual growth taking place.

Q: Why is it that so many people live like this and yet feel sure they are going to heaven?

- Deceived about what the Bible teaches, etc.

V7 - 9

Q: Why don't the wise give to the foolish?

- We cannot borrow what we must buy.
- We are all individually responsible for our relationship with God.



CONCLUSION:

V10 - 13

- Don't miss your opportunity.
- Prepare yourself spiritually.
- Don't let the door be shut in your face because you fell asleep spiritually.

Bible Talk #5: A Life-Changing Experience ⁷

Opening Question:

What is the scariest movie you've ever seen?

Mark 5:1~20

Q: He lived in the tombs, that was his life. What does man live for today?

- Money, power, wealth, himself.

Q: Legion cut himself with Stones - How do we really hurt ourselves today?

- Self destructive habits, smoking, drinking, sexual relationships, not listening to God.

Q: Legion was scared of Jesus - Why are people today scared of facing the truth?

- Don't want to admit the condition we are in. Put up facades.
- Scared to change. Scared to start & then not to be able to complete it.

V6 & V7

Q: What does this tell us about Him?

- Wants to change but is scared.
- We must overcome our fear and trust God.



V15

Q: What do you notice about these other people?

- Their fear leads them to asking Jesus to go from their region.

Q: How do we today ask Jesus to leave our Region?

- Follow traditions, recreate Him differently, not respond to the truth, etc.

Q: What motivated Him to spread the Good News?

- V19 “All that God had done for him”

Q: Why do people not share their faith today?

- Haven't really been changed by Him - Keep asking Him to leave their region.
- Still controlled by their fear.

CONCLUSION:

- Anybody can change.
- BUT you must overcome your fear.
- Trust that God doesn't want to hurt you but rather heal you.

Bible Talk #6: Excuses ⁸

Opening Question:

What are some of the worst excuses you've ever heard?

Luke 14:15~24

MAN =GOD

BANQUET = KINGDOM OF GOD

PEOPLE = US

Q: What do you enjoy at great feasts or parties?

- Food, socializing, music, dancing, etc.

Q: What is involved in preparing a great feast?

- Planning, invitations, transport, menu's, etc.

Q: What has God done to let us know about his feast?

- Evidences, Bible, Jesus Christ, people, etc.

*** THINGS WE CAN EXPECT AT GOD'S BANQUET

Galatians 5:22-23

Q: How does man try and get these things? (Peace, joy, etc.)

- Money, sex, politics, success, etc.

Luke 14:18-20

- Examine the excuses - (Clearly very flimsy excuses)



Q: What kind of excuses do we make?

- No time, relationships, Bible is confusing, later in my life, etc.

Look at Luke 9:57~62

- Did Jesus accept any of these excuses?
- Do they sound like good excuses to us?

Q: How do you feel when you've been let down by someone?

- Angry, hurt, etc.

V21-V24

Q: What do you learn from this?

- God gets angry & hurt. If we don't accept his invite he will find others who really want it.
- Those who know they really need him.

CONCLUSION:

- God loves us and wants to have a relationship with us.
- Don't make excuses when you're invited.
- No matter how good the excuses sound to you – God doesn't accept them.
- In fact our excuses hurt and anger God.

Bible Talk #7: A Clear Choice ⁹

Opening Question:

What is one of the most difficult decisions you've ever had to make?

Deuteronomy 30:11~20

V11

Q: Why is it difficult to live the Christian life?

- Peer pressure.
- Time pressure (schedule)
- Disciplined life (resisting temptations eg. selfishness, laziness, impurity, greed)

V12-14

Q: Yet God says it's not too difficult. What has he given us to make it easy?

- The bible & evidences to know this is the truth.
- Friendships that are real, to encourage, correct and rebuke.
- Jesus' example and love.
- Answered prayers.

V14

Q: How do people try and make it easier?

- Rationalize the truth.
- Compromise on the standards .



- 2 Timothy 4:3~4 talk about how we change the bible to suit our desires (water it down, twist it, take it out of context)
- V15 - talks about the seriousness of this.

Q: What does it mean to love God and walk His ways?

- Time with Him (listening and talking)
- Radical about sin.
- Being a disciple - purpose to help people to get closer to God.
- Helping the poor.

V17

Q: What things can draw us away from God?

- Possessions, money, cars, etc.
- Careers, varsity, power.
- Popularity (peoples' opinions).

V19

Q: Since this is such a clear choice why do so many people choose wrong?

- Fear, laziness, lack of respect or love for God.

Joshua 24:14~15 – The choice was available to these people ~ Make YOUR choice!

CONCLUSION:

- God loves us and wants to have a relationship with us.
- Don't let Satan deceive you into thinking that Christianity is too difficult for you.
- This is a big decision – “Heaven & earth are witnesses”.
- Make the right choice and serve God.



Bible Talk #8: Three Scary Scriptures ¹⁰

Opening Question:

What are you scared of?

- Spiders, snakes, heights etc.

Revelations 21:6~8

Q: What do you find scary about this passage?

- Individual sins and fiery lake - Elaborate on the sins.
- How can we be cowardly?
- Sexual Immorality – is it seen today as a sin?
- Lies – is it alright to tell white lies?

Luke 13:22~30

Q: What do you find scary about this passage?

- Trying but not entering
- high standard
- 'every effort'
- people will be surprised.

Q: How would you describe someone making every effort to win a race?

- Sacrifice, radicalness, total commitment, everyday, asking advice, etc.

Q: How would you describe someone who doesn't give all to win a race?

- Going training occasionally, distracted easily by bad weather etc..., not disciplined.

Q: Describe someone trying to get to heaven.

- Going to church, reading Bible occasionally, easily distracted spiritually, etc.

Q: Describe someone making every effort to get to heaven.

- Reading every day, getting someone in his/her life, sacrificial, evangelising, uncompromising, etc.

2 Thessalonians 2:9~12

Q: What do you find scary (terrifying) about this passage?

- Counterfeit miracles deceive the perishing.

Q: What are they deceived about?

- Their salvation, righteousness in God's eyes.

Q: How can we refuse to love the truth?

- Not be honest with ourselves, not accepting or doing what the Bible asks of us.

Q: How do you know if someone enjoys their sin?

- Doesn't change, says sorry day after day.

CONCLUSION:

- These things are a lot more scary than spiders or snakes.
- Get serious about God and his word.
- If you're not studying the bible – get someone to study with you.



Bible Talk #9: The Animal Bible Talk ¹¹

Opening Question:

What animal would you like to be? Why?

Proverbs 6:6~8 > ANT

Q: What characteristics come to mind when you think of an ant?

- Hardworking, unified, plan ahead, self-motivated, etc.

Q: What prevents us from being like this?

- Laziness, pride, selfishness, etc.

Proverbs 6:9~11

Q: How do we know when we are spiritually asleep?

- Not reading Bible, not praying, not radical with sin, not evangelistic, etc.

Q: What are the consequences of this?

- SPIRITUAL POVERTY!!!

Psalm 32:8~9 > MULE

Q: What characteristics come to mind when you think of a mule?

- Stubborn, rebellious, stupid, etc.

Q: What areas in our lives do we find it hard to be corrected in?

- Marriage, work-situation, raising children, religion, etc.

Q: Why?

- Pride, fear, insecurity.

1Peter 5:8 > LION

Q: What characteristics come to mind when you think of a lion?

- Aggressive, dangerous, cunning, etc.

Describe how lions hunt for the animals that are separated from the pack and that are weaker.

Q: When are we easy prey for Satan?

- Alone, spiritually malnourished, in tempting situations, etc.

Q: Since Satan is so dangerous, why are people not alert and self-controlled?

- Deceived, lazy, distracted by the world, love sin, etc.

CONCLUSION:

- God teaches us a lot through nature and animals.
- Be like the ant.
- Don't be like the mule.
- Watch out for the lion.



Bible Talk #10: A Life-Changing Journey ¹²

Opening Question:

What is the best holiday destination you've ever been to?

Acts 8:26-40

We're going to read about a holiday a man takes to Jerusalem that changes his life.

Q: Philip - What do you notice that is impressive about Philip?

- Immediate obedience even when don't fully understand.

Q: Why are we often not like Philip?

- Prideful, untrusting, disobedient, etc.

Q: Ethiopian - What do you notice about this man?

- Achiever (Treasurer), successful, honest, religious, committed (travelled 1500 km's to get to Jerusalem) etc.

V27 & V28

Q: Why are some people who are successful or achievers not interested in God?

- Prideful, image conscious, too busy etc...

V31

Q: What do you notice about the Eunuch here?

- Reading out aloud - not ashamed.

Q: What else do you notice about the Eunuch?

- Teachable, humble, invites Philip to help him know scriptures better.

V35

Q: What is the Good news about Jesus Christ?

- He loves us, forgiveness, gives us purpose for our lives, heaven, etc.

V36

Q: What is impressive about this Ethiopian here?

- Not influenced by people, immediate response to the truth, urgent to obey the scriptures.

Q: What prevents people from immediately responding to the Truth?

- Procrastination, lack of respect, fear etc.

CONCLUSION:

- Let's imitate these two great men.
- Be eager to learn about God.
- Be quick to obey what you read in the scriptures.



Bible Talk #11: Jehoiakim Burns the Scrolls ¹³

Opening Question:

Have you ever read something in the Bible you wish you could take out?

Today is your chance! Share the story of Thomas Jefferson, who actually took his Bible and cut out all the passages that referred to miracles because he didn't believe they were possible.

Jeremiah 36:1-26

Activity:

Pass out slips of paper and let people write down what they would delete from the Bible (include references if possible). Collect papers and have a ten-minute break. During the break, make up a revised version of the Bible based on the papers collected.

Read Jeremiah 36: 28-32

Q: Did ignoring God's word make it go away?

Q: What is the consequence of deleting things from God's word?

Q: Do we have the right to play games with God's word?

Q: How do people practically exhibit this attitude toward the Bible?

- Arbitrarily decide what is applicable and not applicable for today.
- Decide what is outmoded and no longer fits with today's world.
- Don't treat God's Word with seriousness.

Read **1 Peter 1:24-25**

'All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of the Lord stands forever.'



Bible Talk #12: Masks ¹⁴

Have a discussion about masks.

- Have you been to a masquerade party?
- What masks do people like to put on during those parties? Perhaps discuss the movie, 'The Mask', and how the mask transforms Jim Carey into a totally different person.

Today, people wear masks to portray a different personality. What masks do people wear?

- Mask of coolness – nothing ruffles them
- Mask of superiority – can't top them in anything
- Mask of religion – communicates perfection
- Mask of inferiority – false humility
- Mask of the Joke – never gets deep or serious
- Mask of Macho – a continual sense of bravado
- Mask of niceness – covering a heart of bitterness
- Mask of respectability – never does anything "improper"
- Mask of the intellectual – never stoops to mundane thoughts
- Mask of the athlete/playboy

Q: Why do people wear masks?

- To cover up who they really are.
- Fear of being rejected.
- To feel superior over others.

Q: According to the bible, why do people cover up?

- Fear of “evil” deeds being exposed. John 3:19-21.

Read Mark 7:20-23. Define what the Bible calls “sin”.

Q: What is the commonality in this list of sins?

- All are evil, come from the inside and make us unclean. These are what people really want to hide. These are what people cover up.

Solution:

John 3:21 – Live by truth

2 Corinthians 5:17 – In Christ we are a new creation, and we’re free to take off the masks and be transparent.

2 Corinthians 3:12-18 – “But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.” (v. 16) It is only in Christ that we can be honest and be real. The veil is removed from our faces and we have the opportunity to reflect the Lord’s glory instead of hiding who we really are inside.

Ask for personal sharing:

- What masks have we used to cover ourselves?

Challenge:

Make a decision today to remove the masks in your life. Be transparent, and let God clean the inside. Then we won’t need to wear masks!



Bible Talk #13: Listen and Do ¹⁵

Activity:

Play “Name that tune” with a CD player. Play popular songs or television jingles, etc.

Q: What is the key to doing well in this game?

James 1:19-25 Recap.

This is a practical book. It talks about overcoming tough times, being blessed by God, how to be stable, fighting temptations and other vital topics that are important in living the Christian life. Let’s discuss together this vital topic of listening!

Listening!

Q: What is the key to being a great listener?

- Not having presupposed ideas or prejudging
- Understanding the demeanour of the person (body language, etc)
- Understanding the full scope of where the person is coming from (such as a spouse or child, etc.)

The same thing applies to the word of God.

Q: What keeps us from being great listeners to the Word of God?

- Past experiences, already formed opinions, traditions, upbringing?

The word of God can save you. (v. 21)

- Listening to and accepting the word of God is crucial to your salvation!

Mirror analogy (v. 22-25)

Q: Why is the Bible compared to a mirror?

- It reveals who we are, lets us see ourselves as we really are, and exposes the inside, whether we want to see it or not. Most people do not want to be exposed. Have you ever seen anyone caught on a hidden camera? People generally hate for their thoughts and actions to be exposed.

Q: How can you tell when someone doesn't want to obey God's word?

- Very simple – they don't obey it!

Q: How do we respond when we hear the Word, but have no intention of obeying it?

- That was a "nice" sermon
- That was a "nice" bible talk
- I'm not sure the scripture actually means that?
- It's a great topic. I need to learn more about how to apply it, etc.

Q: What are some excuses we use for not obeying?

- There are no absolutes, that was then, this is now, my family....



- I'm a special case, I didn't like the way he said it to me....
- You can't take it literally; I don't think a loving God would....
- Foolish! When we do this, we are saying: "That's nice, God, but here is what I think would be a better idea...."

What are our only opinions?

- Continue to be foolish.
- Break the mirror (the Bible)
- Do something about it-Change!

Q: How can we put the Bible into practice with our spouses and children?

Q: How can we put the Bible into practice in our dating relationships?

Q: How can we put the Bible into practice in our personality and character development?

Share some examples of people who have listened to God and his word and have radically changed. Or ask for personal sharing.

The word of God will judge us. Rejecting God's word is exactly the same as rejecting Jesus himself!

God tells us right up front what to listen for and put into practice. He has no hidden agenda.

CONCLUSION:

- It is very smart to put God's word into practice! The incredible thing is that when we put God's word into practice, it not only prepares us for Judgment day, but it makes our lives better in every area!
- Are you listening to and obeying God's word in your daily lives?



Bible Talk #14: The Value of the Kingdom ¹⁶

Opening questions:

Q: What is something valuable that you own?

Q: What makes it valuable to you?

Q: What qualities make something valuable?

- Costly, rare, irreplaceable, sentimental value, precious to you, one of a kind, beauty, etc.

Q: Do you have an eye for value? What are you good at evaluating?

Let's look at a story that Jesus told about some items of value.

Matthew 13:44-46 Recap.

Q: Is the kingdom of heaven available now, or do we have to wait for heaven?

- The kingdom of heaven is where Jesus is king. It is the family of God! (If necessary, read Colossians 1:13-14. We have been brought into the kingdom.)
- In fact, the kingdom and the church are one and the same.
- Heaven will be great, but God's blessings can be enjoyed now.

Q: Describe the pearl in V45-46. How big? How shiny? How beautiful?

Q: Did the man know anything about pearls?

- Yes! He was a pearl merchant.

Q: Did the pearl merchant get a good deal?

Q: Describe the treasure in the field in V44.

Q: Was the man out looking for treasure?

- No, he stumbled onto it.

Q: Did the man get a good deal?

- Yes! In his joy, he sold all he had to obtain it.

Q: How do you act when you aren't sure if you are getting a good business deal?

- Tentative, wondering, hesitant

Q: Were these men hesitant or tentative?

- No way!

Q: Were these men willing to sell everything they had?

- They were totally confident that they were getting a great deal.
- It wasn't even debatable.
- If you had a balance scale and put the treasure or the pearl on one side and all their possessions on the other, the scale wouldn't gently tip. It would crash down.



Jesus is making the point about how valuable the kingdom of God is.

Q: How was Jesus so sure?

Q: What are the benefits of the kingdom that make it so valuable?

- Relationship with God, spouse that loves God first, obedient children, friends, peace, forgiveness of sins, freedom from guilt, etc.

Q: How do you know if someone values something?

- Protect it, care for it, wash it, pamper it, show it off, talk about it.

Q: Why do so few people see the value of the kingdom (the church)?

- Never seen it.
- Have seen “false pearls” and been disappointed.

Q: Describe a church that is the way the Bible describes it

- Loving, growing, meeting needs, forgiving, exciting, powerful, etc.

Q: What would such a church be worth?

Ask for personal sharing:

How have you searched for pearl or stumbled upon pearl, and in joy, gave up what you had to inherit the kingdom?

CONCLUSION:

- Is the kingdom valuable to you?
- Do you see its real worth?
- Would you give everything you own for the kingdom? If you are skeptical, doubting, unsure, then the problem could be that you don't clearly see the value of God's kingdom.



Bible Talk #15: Hope ¹⁷

Opening Question:

What is one thing that you hoped for as a kid? A dream?

Hope is what gives us the strength to go on and tackle the future. We're going to discuss what the Bible says about hope.

Q: What are some things we hope for?

- Success in career.
- Success in sports, hobbies.
- School.
- Girlfriend/Boyfriend/Spouse.

Q: Looking at the world, does the world have a lot of hope in it?

- Marriage/divorces as bad as ever.
- Unfaithfulness/betrayal/immorality.
- AIDS/STD rampant.

The bible holds out a hope that lasts.

1 Peter 1: 3-9 Recap.

Q: What kind of hope are we talking about?

Q: What does this hope produce?

- Inexpressible, glorious joy.
- Knowing we have received the goal.

-
- Purpose.
 - Eternal relationship with God.
 - Salvation.

This is exciting!

Remember back on the greatest things we hoped for.

Q: What did we have to do to receive/accomplish them?

- Cost something.
- Money.
- Time.
- Pride/effort.
- Break off or change relationships.
- Plans, dreams, goals, aspirations.

We were willing to give up something to get something better.

In order to have the hope of that relationship with God, it will cost us something.

Luke 14:33 says it will cost everything to be a disciple of Jesus.

Q: What will it cost you?

- Your pride.
- Your sin.



- Your goals, dreams, plans.
- Your desire to be in control.

Q: But what will you gain?

- Jesus, and that is the ultimate that anyone can gain!
We then have a living hope!

Ask for personal sharing:

What have you given up in the search of hope and what have you gain as a result?

Challenge:

Make a decision to have the hope that cannot be diminished or taken away.

Bible Talk #16: Build on the Solid Rock ¹⁸

Opening Question:

Imagine you absolutely know you were going to be hit by a huge storm exactly one month from now. How would you prepare your home?

In each of our lives, we will experience trauma, trials, tribulations and stress. Some are expected and some are unexpected – death of friends, loved ones, births, moving, illness, etc. Some are totally unexpected and come without any advance warning. Jesus talked about preparing for the storms of life in the Sermon on the Mount.

Read Luke 6: 46-49 Recap.

Q: Which of the two houses were easier to build? Why?

- It is easier to build a foundation on sand than on rock.

Q: Which house looked stronger?

- You could not tell from the outside.

Q: Why would anyone build a house on a weak foundation?

- It's easier, it's cheaper, it's faster.
- They didn't actually have to live there.
- They didn't think they would ever get a storm.



Jesus told this parable to paint a spiritual picture for us to think about.

Q: What does the house represent?

- Your life before God.

Q: What does it mean, “its destruction was complete”?

- Lost their faith, life falls apart, lost hope for the future and a reason to live.

Q: What are the floods and torrents in people’s lives?

- Disease, drugs, addictions, alcoholism.
- Financial disaster, losing a job, not getting a promotion.
- Losing a loved one, parent, child, friend.
- Broken relationships, divorce, unfaithfulness of a spouse.
- Physical trauma, accidents and much, much more.

Q: How bad are the storms in your life going to be?

- No one in this world knows.

Maybe your life will be a bed of roses, but maybe not. Some of us are out of touch and think, “It’ll never happen to me”

How will you weather the storms of life? How will our faith in God hold out?

Q: What does it mean to have a foundation on the rock?

- Faith in God, trust in God.

Q: How much faith?

- So much that it will weather any storm.

Q: What is the difference between the two builders?

- Both heard the Word, but one obeyed and the other ignored it.

Q: What does it take to dig down deep?

- Must be convinced that the storms are coming and that they will test your faith.
- Need to have faith that Jesus is the right foundation to build on.
- Need to have perseverance to keep on digging.
- Need to put into practice what you know.

Some of us are trying to build a foundation with a trowel or a screwdriver!

- You read a few verses a day.
- You pray about three minutes a day.



- You have shallow convictions about who Jesus really is.
- You have shallow convictions about the Bible and the kingdom of God.

Some of us think we are a match for the storms of life and what will come.

- We must not be naïve.
- We must dig down deep.
- We must build on the solid rock.

God wants everyone to be able to weather the storms of life. God wants all of us to end up in heaven with him.

Challenge:

- Get into the Word. Study it everyday to see how God wants us to live.
- Hear the word of God – put it into practice.
- Spend time everyday in prayer. Develop a great walk with God.

Bible Talk #17: Career Night ¹⁹

Opening Question:

If you could do it over again, what career would you most like to go into?

In the Christian life, you have the exciting privilege of living out qualities of character that are emulated in several professions. Let's look at them together and compare our characters to them.

Read 2 Timothy 1:8-2:15. Recap.

1. A Prisoner (1:8)

- Discuss the qualities of a prisoner.
Totally dependent on others, at the mercy of others, must be willing to suffer at the hands of others, not in control of his time or agenda.

2. A Teacher (2:1)

- Discuss the qualities of a teacher.
Reliable, qualified, speaks the truth, corrects misconceptions, long-suffering, patient, looks out for the interest of the student.

3. The Soldier (2:3)

- Discuss the qualities of a soldier.
Follows orders, unquestioning loyalty, fight for what is right, willing to be involved in life and death situations, well-trained, disciplined, bold.



4. The Athlete (2:5)

- Discuss the qualities of an athlete.
Regimented, daily training, goals, trains for progress, runs according to the rules, runs to win the prize, self-motivated but also willing to be coached and trained.

5. The Farmer (2:6)

- Discuss the qualities of a farmer.
Patient, willing to work long hours, has hope can't see the immediate results, cares for the crops, deals with the weeds.

6. The Workman (2:14)

- Discuss the qualities of a workman.
Dependable, at times overlooked or taken for granted, willing to do the dirty work, satisfied with a job well done.

Ask for personal sharing:

Which qualities have you grown in from being a Christian?

Which qualities are you still trying to grow in?

Conclusion:

All of these qualities of character are available to us in the Christian life. Even if we missed out on them early in life, we have the chance to put these qualities into our characters.

Bible Talk #18: Faith of a Sick Woman ²⁰

Opening Question:

Has everything gone perfectly in your life? What are some things you feel have gone wrong in your life?

Mark 5: 21-34 Recap. Then reread vv 24a-26.

Q: What would your attitude toward life be if you had gone through years of sickness like the woman had gone through?

- Negative, cynical, skeptical, bitter, depressed, angry, hopeless

Q: What kind of attitude might this woman have had toward a faith healer? Why?

This was a woman of incredible faith:

- Suffered a lot over a long period of time.
- Had gone to many doctors.
- Had lost all her money.
- Had gotten worse.

It almost seems natural and justifiable to be bitter and negative, and to want to give up.

Reread verses 27-28.

She had an incredible reaction to the news of Jesus.



Q: What could have been her reaction?

- “Right...another faith healer, another fake, another trip to town.”
- “I wonder how much he’ll charge?”

Her faith would seem great if this was her first attempt at being healed. How much more incredible this is considering what she had gone through!

Q: What did the woman see that was different about Jesus?

- He didn’t charge and he was successful.
- He loved people. He was on his way to heal Jairus’ daughter.

Reread verse 29.

Where others had failed, Jesus healed her and freed her from her suffering.

We are a lot like this woman, searching for healing. We’re looking for love, fulfillment, hope, meaning, purpose, joy and freedom. We’ve spent a lot of time, energy and money looking for the cure. We look for relief in all the wrong places.

Q: How do we do that?

- Drugs and alcohol.
- Relationships.
- Sports, hobbies, careers.

-
- False religion.
 - Materialism.

Q: What obstacles did this woman have to overcome to get to Jesus?

- The crowd.
- Her own fears, doubts, skepticism.
- Her illness.
- Fear of rejection by Jesus.
- Fear of failing.

Q: What obstacles do we face to get to Jesus?

- Laziness.
- Lack of time.
- Lack of initiative.
- Doubts, fears, skepticism.
- Invite personal sharing.
- Many people go to church and “bump into” Jesus, but their lives are not changed.

Q: What was different about this woman’s touch?

- It wasn’t just an accidental touch; it was a touch of faith.

Challenge:

Have the faith of the sick woman. Forget the past and the disappointments; bag the excuses and the failures. Start making an effort to get close to Jesus!



Bible Talk #19: Pursuit of Happiness ²¹

Opening Question:

Q: What is your childhood dream? Did you achieve it?

Q: What do people today dream of in their pursuit of happiness?

Q: When we look at TV commercials or print advertisements, what do marketers tell us will make us happy?

Let's read about someone who had everything that many people dreamed of having. Read Ecclesiastes 2:1-11

In this passage, King Solomon indeed has everything:

- Pleasure.
- Achievement: great projects.
- Power: king, slaves.
- Huge wealth.
- Women: harem, 1000 wives.

However, interestingly he mentioned all these things are chasing after the wind.

Q: What could be the reason King Solomon thinks that pleasure is chasing after the wind? Eg, indulging in alcohol, what happens the day after?

Q: How about achievement? Wealth? Women? if you are comfortable to share, how many of you have pursued any of these before, and what was your experience chasing after these?

Q: Is there anything wrong in pursuing all these things?
Don't we all need them to a certain extent?

- The problem is if we place our hope and worth in these things, we'll be disappointed at the end.

Let's read the conclusion of this king in Ecclesiastes 12:9-14. King Solomon's conclusion is that we should fear God and follow his commandments.

Q: What is the difference between pursuing God and all of the above?

- God never fails.
- God's promises last for eternity.
- Only God can offer us hope and happiness beyond death.

Conclusion:

Pursuing achievement, wealth, relationship and pleasures do bring us temporary happiness. However, none of these things can be the foundation and ultimate goals of our lives. Only pursuing God would promise us eternal happiness and hope.



Bible Talk #20: Beware of all kinds of greed ²²

Luke 12:13-21

Q: If you had one question for Jesus what would it be?

- What does heaven look like? Hell?
- When am I going to die?
- Who am I going to marry?
- How does one get salvation?

This guy has his one question and he asks Jesus to become his debt collector!

Jesus says, *“Be on your guard against all kinds of greed.”*

Other scriptures address greed very strongly.

Eph 5:3 says we shouldn't have *“even a hint of greed”* in our lives.

Col 3:5 says *“we should put to death greed in our lives”*.

Q: What is greed? How would you define it?

- Definition of greed: “an overwhelming desire to have more of something (such as money or food), more than is actually needed”.

Q: What can we be greedy for?

- Money, popularity, food, comfort.

V16-19

Jesus tells a parable about a farmer who made a good business decision but a bad spiritual decision & he says in v20 *“you fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you”*.

Q: What kind of decisions can we make that are good for business BUT bad for spirituality?

- Lying to customers to get a deal.
- Taking or giving a bribe to win a contract.
- Missing church habitually for work commitments.
- Taking on too much work responsibility that we neglect our family and relationship with God.

Q: What was foolish about his decision?

- Clue: 15x in 3 verses v17-19 he mentions “himself”.
- He was selfish – ultimately that is what the sin of greed caters to.
- He didn’t consider God or others in his decision.

V21

Jesus says this is how it will be with anyone who isn’t “rich towards God”..

Q: What can we do to be rich towards God?

- Prioritise his Kingdom and righteousness ahead of our own priorities.
- At least tithe of our money for spiritual purposes (10%).



- Give of our time, energy and money to help people who are far from God.
- Love God with ALL our hearts.

Conclusion:

Q: At the beginning of the passage Jesus warns us to “watch out for all kinds of greed”. What can we do to watch out that greed doesn’t enter our hearts?

Ask others to point it out (like Jesus did to this man) if they see it in our lives.

- Check our hearts if we are desiring “more than we need” of money, power, success.
- Become generous (this is the anti-dote to greed).
- Decide to live in a way that is rich towards God.

Bible Talk #21: Becoming Generous in Every Way ²³

Opening Question:

How would you describe someone who is generous?

- Openhearted
- Selfless
- Kind
- Loving
- Non-materialistic.

Ps 37:23-26

Q: Why are the righteous described as “always generous”?

Why do you think generosity is a righteous quality?

- Generosity is an act of love and kindness towards whom to give.
- It is the opposite of greed and selfishness – it is selflessness.

Q: What fears tend to prevent us from being generous with our stuff?

- We fear if we give to others, we will not have enough for ourselves.
- We fear not being appreciated for our generosity.

Q: How does this passage address those fears?



Proverbs 11:24-25

“One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed”.

Q: What are the principles of generosity described in this passage?

- Often the very opposite of what we expect happens regarding generosity and greed.
- We would think by withholding we would have more but in fact you end up with less.
- A generous man will NOT become poor but will in fact prosper.
- How about you? Are you a withholder or generous in God’s eyes?

2Corinthians 9:6-11

Q: It is important to God that our hearts are right in our giving. What can we do to be “cheerful givers”?

- Get our motivation right for giving.
- Deal with our materialism & greed that prevents generous giving.
- Read a lot of scriptures on the subject so that our hearts can align with God’s heart.
- Overcome our fears related to giving.

Q: What promises does God provide in this passage to help our hearts be in the right place with our giving?

- If you sow generously you will reap generously.

-
- Those who sow generously will be supplied with more seed.
 - Once generosity is a part of our character then God will make us rich in every way so that we can be generous on every occasion.

1Timothy 6:17-19

Q: Why does where our hope is set affect our hearts with regard to generosity?

- If our hearts are set on wealth, we will hoard it and be greedy.
- If our hope is set on God, we will trust in his provision and be generous.
- When our hope is set on God, we are focused on setting a firm foundation for the coming age, which is truly life.

Challenge:

- It is not only righteous to be generous, it brings with it many blessings. Generosity is the antidote to greed and materialism.
- Are you known as a generous person?
- What can you do in 2011 to become generous in every way?



Bible Talk #22: Making Wise Choices ²⁴

Opening Question:

What foolish decisions have you made with money matters?

- Bad investments
- Taking on too much debt
- Buying things I don't need etc.

Pro 13:11

Q: Why does patience help one make good financial decisions?

- You don't feel pressurized to "get rich quick".
- You don't allow greed to lead you towards "dishonest money".
- You can weigh decisions carefully.
- You take a long term view on things and don't panic.

Pro 22:4

Q: Why does humility & fear of God lead to wealth, honor and life?

- Humility means we ask questions, don't assume we know everything and listen to advice.
- Fear of the Lord keeps us from morally wrong or shady decisions, which can lead to dishonor and shame.

Pro 13:7

Q: Which is better to pretend to be rich and yet have nothing or act poor but be wealthy?

- Both are wrong, but probably better act poor and actually have wealth.

Q: What motivates us to pretend to be rich when we have nothing?

- Seeking people's approval.
- Covering up deep insecurities & low self-worth.

Q: What are the signs we are trying to impress others with our "wealth"?

- Driving fancier cars than we can really afford.
- Wearing expensive clothes we bought on credit.
- Living a "Champaign lifestyle on a beer budget".

Pro 30:7-9

Q: How does this balanced view of wealth help us make good financial decisions?

- So often we are given to extremes and this helps centre us.
- We often don't realise that "too much" is a spiritual problem.
- We fear "too little" and so we horde "too much".

Ecc 5:10

Q: How can we guard our hearts from "loving money"?

- We have to be careful who we associate with – greed, like a disease, is something you can catch.



- We have to be careful what books and magazines we read – they can create material discontent in our hearts.
- We need people in our lives who can point out to us when we start making bad financial decisions.
- If we fill our hearts with love for God, there will not be space for “the love of money”.

Challenge:

- Making wise choices with our money is essential to a good life .
- Patience, humility, fear of God, good advisors all help in guiding our choices.
- Getting the right balance in not wanting too much and not settling for too little is very important.

REFERENCES

- ¹ Reprinted from the book entitled “52 Bible Talks” with permission of DPI
- ² Reprinted from the book entitled “52 Bible Talks” with permission of DPI
- ³ Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com
- ⁴ Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com
- ⁵ Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com
- ⁶ Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com
- ⁷ Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com
- ⁸ Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com
- ⁹ Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com
- ¹⁰ Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com
- ¹¹ Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com
- ¹² Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com
- ¹³ Reprinted from the book entitled “52 Bible Talks” with permission of DPI
- ¹⁴ Reprinted from the book entitled “52 Bible Talks” with permission of DPI
- ¹⁵ Reprinted from the book entitled “52 Bible Talks” with permission of DPI
- ¹⁶ Reprinted from the book entitled “52 Bible Talks” with permission of DPI
- ¹⁷ Reprinted from the book entitled “52 Bible Talks” with permission of DPI
- ¹⁸ Reprinted from the book entitled “52 Bible Talks” with permission of DPI
- ¹⁹ Reprinted from the book entitled “52 Bible Talks” with permission of DPI
- ²⁰ Reprinted from the book entitled “52 Bible Talks” with permission of DPI
- ²¹ Contributed by Taskie Sadikin
- ²² Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com
- ²³ Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com
- ²⁴ Downloaded with permission from IcocHotResources.com

APPENDIX A:

**MY BIBLE TALK EVALUATION
& PLANNING SHEETS**

My Bible Talk Evaluation and Planning Sheets

Type of Bible Talk: _____

Date: _____ Venue: _____

Mission Focused Through Opportunities

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

Atmosphere - fellowship, out-reach and logistics

A. Fellowship

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

B. Outreach

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

C. Logistics (Location, food, babysitting, etc)

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

Participation - Lesson and Personal Sharing

A. Lesson

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

B. Personal Sharing

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

My Bible Talk Evaluation and Planning Sheets

Type of Bible Talk: _____

Date: _____ Venue: _____

Mission Focused Through Opportunities

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

Atmosphere - fellowship, out-reach and logistics

A. Fellowship

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

B. Outreach

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

C. Logistics (Location, food, babysitting, etc)

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

Participation - Lesson and Personal Sharing

A. Lesson

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

B. Personal Sharing

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

My Bible Talk Evaluation and Planning Sheets

Type of Bible Talk: _____

Date: _____ Venue: _____

Mission Focused Through Opportunities

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

Atmosphere - fellowship, out-reach and logistics

A. Fellowship

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

B. Outreach

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

C. Logistics (Location, food, babysitting, etc)

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

Participation - Lesson and Personal Sharing

A. Lesson

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

B. Personal Sharing

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

My Bible Talk Evaluation and Planning Sheet

Type of Bible Talk: _____

Date: _____ Venue: _____

Mission Focused Through Opportunities

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

Atmosphere - fellowship, out-reach and logistics

A. Fellowship

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

B. Outreach

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

C. Logistics (Location, food, babysitting, etc)

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

Participation - Lesson and Personal Sharing

A. Lesson

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

B. Personal Sharing

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

My Bible Talk Evaluation and Planning Sheet

Type of Bible Talk: _____

Date: _____ Venue: _____

Mission Focused Through Opportunities

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

Atmosphere - fellowship, out-reach and logistics

A. Fellowship

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

B. Outreach

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

C. Logistics (Location, food, babysitting, etc)

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

Participation - Lesson and Personal Sharing

A. Lesson

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

B. Personal Sharing

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

My Bible Talk Evaluation and Planning Sheet

Type of Bible Talk: _____

Date: _____ Venue: _____

Mission Focused Through Opportunities

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

Atmosphere - fellowship, out-reach and logistics

A. Fellowship

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

B. Outreach

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

C. Logistics (Location, food, babysitting, etc)

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

Participation - Lesson and Personal Sharing

A. Lesson

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

B. Personal Sharing

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strengths and Areas for Improvement:

Desired Growth:

Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ways to Improve:

APPENDIX B:

DISCIPLING LESSONS

Laziness

We can be too busy & exert ourselves way over the limit! An extreme example is found in the book of Exodus:

Exodus 5:6-9

6 'That same day Pharaoh gave this order to the slave drivers and foremen in charge of the people: 7 "You are no longer to supply the people with straw for making bricks; let them go and gather their own straw. 8 But require them to make the same number of bricks as before; don't reduce the quota. They are lazy; that is why they are crying out, 'Let us go and sacrifice to our God.' 9 Make the work harder for the men so that they keep working and pay no attention to lies.'

Here, Pharaoh had an impossible expectation to ask of the Hebrews: making the same number of bricks without straws! His goal was to make them keep working so they couldn't turn to God for help. They were mere slaves and for certain their wellbeing was the last thing on his mind.

Yet, when we struggle with laziness, it is an entirely different issue. A lot of times, we get confused between getting lazy & not being able to get by with life. They are separate issues. Someone may be hardworking but due to other circumstances, they can barely make enough to meet their daily needs. Conversely, someone else may not need to



work much but may be from a privileged family that provides for them.

The Bible calls us NOT to be lazy:

2 Thessalonians 3:10

‘For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: “If a man will not work, he shall not eat.”

God is addressing the sin of laziness and not whether we have means to survive in life. We certainly are NOT saying we don't give thanks & be grateful if we have an alternative/indirect source of income, but our sinful human nature tends towards taking things for granted most times. If we don't put our hands to work, our heart get hardened by the laziness we develop over time. Consider these verses:

Proverbs 6:6-11

6 ‘Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! 7 It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, 8 yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. 9 How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? 10 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest- 11 and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man.’

Proverbs 10:4

4 'Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth. 5 He who gathers crops in summer is a wise son, but he who sleeps during harvest is a disgraceful son. 26 As vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes, so is a sluggard to those who send him.'

Proverbs 12:24

24 'Diligent hands will rule, but laziness ends in slave labor.'

When one struggles with laziness, there are often excuses:

Proverbs 26:13-16

13 'The sluggard says, "There is a lion in the road, a fierce lion roaming the streets!" 14 As a door turns on its hinges, so a sluggard turns on his bed. 15 The sluggard buries his hand in the dish; he is too lazy to bring it back to his mouth. 16 The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who answer discreetly.'

Ask the person what are some of the excuses they tend to give to justify their way of life? In practice, a normal person won't continue to do something they find no benefits in, no matter how illogical to bystanders. Therefore, there must be some form of satisfaction they derive from being the way they are (assuming their laziness is habitual). Ask them what good they see from continuing their way. Challenge



their way of thinking maybe one-sided.

There are consequences to laziness:

Proverbs 18:9

9 'One who is slack in his work is brother to one who destroys.'

Ecclesiastes 10:18

18 'If a man is lazy, the rafters sag; if his hands are idle, the house leaks.'

Not only does the Bible addresses physical laziness which is a reflection of our character, it ties that in with how it affects us spiritually:

Proverbs 13:4

4 'The soul of a lazy man desires, and has nothing; But the soul of the diligent shall be made rich.' (NKJV)

Proverbs 15:19

19 'The way of the sluggard is blocked with thorns, but the path of the upright is a highway.'

Matthew 25:26-30

26'His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? 27Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when

*I returned I would have received it back with interest.28”
‘Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the
ten talents. 29For everyone who has will be given more,
and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have,
even what he has will be taken from him. 30And throw that
worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there
will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’*

When we get lazy in our work, we get lazy doing God’s work also. God ultimately looks at our soul. If we are lazy on the inside, it WILL translate into actions. While one may “get away” with laziness while young, there are numerous negative examples of people whose sin have caught up with them when they get older.

Let’s get diligent on the inside & our outside! When we get fired up about God & our relationship with Him, we will get godly motivation to work:

Colossians 3:23

23 ‘Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, 24since you know you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.’

Hebrews 6:10-12

10 ‘God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. 11We want each of you to show



this same diligence to the very end, in order to make your hope sure. 12We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.'

Worldliness

The dictionary defines being “worldly” as “pertaining to this world as contrasted with heaven or spiritual life” and “devoted to, directed toward, or connected with the affairs, interests, or pleasures of this world.”

Whether we are so enamored by the world and lose sight of heaven, or we get detached from our spiritual life and plunge ourselves into worldly pleasures -- either way they are destructive to our lives.

What happens to us when we get worldly?

1 Corinthians 3:1-2

1 ‘Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly—mere infants in Christ. 2I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. 3You are still worldly.’

Paul was addressing the “man-centered” thinking of the Corinth disciples here but he made the point that when we get worldly, we regress spiritually. At best, we stay as spiritual babies. At worst, being worldly has a way of making us unlearn many godly things. What are ways our lives have shown we seem to have unlearned some godly lessons? How do we feel we have pleased God more in the past?



What helped us to be spiritual in the past?

Titus 2:11-15

11 'For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. 12It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, 14who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. 15These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.'

God's grace was & should remain always as the only reason why we turn from the world to Him. Yet we are prone to being forgetful. We hear but don't listen. We listen then we forget. Let's look at some other passages and meditate on these words:

2 Timothy 3:1-5

1 'But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. 2People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, 4treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— 5having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.'

Psalm 127:1-2

1 'Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain. 2 In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat—for he grants sleep to those he loves.'

We cling to many things in life, accumulating possessions that in the end possess us. But who sustains us & grants us our life? God. How do we see our life in the past when we first became Christians? How was it like to turn to God from the world when we became Christians? How is it now? What changed?

An example of a rich individual can be found in King Solomon. He was also the wisest man, having been granted wisdom by God. A few millennia ago, he said the following:

Ecclesiastes 4:1-8

1 'Again I looked and saw all the oppression that was taking place under the sun: I saw the tears of the oppressed—and they have no comforter; power was on the side of their oppressors—and they have no comforter. 2 And I declared that the dead, who had already died, are happier than the living, who are still alive.

3 But better than both is he who has not yet been, who has not seen the evil that is done under the sun. 4 And I saw



that all labor and all achievement spring from man's envy of his neighbor. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. 5 The fool folds his hands and ruins himself. 6 Better one handful with tranquillity than two handfuls with toil and chasing after the wind.

7 Again I saw something meaningless under the sun: 8 There was a man all alone; he had neither son nor brother. There was no end to his toil, yet his eyes were not content with his wealth. "For whom am I toiling," he asked, "and why am I depriving myself of enjoyment?" This too is meaningless—a miserable business!

Here was a man who had it all! Solomon is by far the richest man that ever lived (scholars estimate even by today's standards)! He knows the temptations & the lure of the world. Yet in his writings, he comes to the conclusion that this "toiling" is a meaningless business.

Jesus ties it in the best, saying:

Matthew 13:22

22 'The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful.'

Perhaps we feel unfruitful in the kingdom & the world provides us with a better arena to do something useful?

Jesus actually says the seed, which is the word of God, can't take root in one's heart when one is constantly worried or deluded by the worldly matters. When we get our heart soft & eager, God can use it again!

Think about it for a moment; we are in control of the condition of the soil: our heart. God's word, which is the seed, needs to partner with good soil to grow. The Creator of the Universe provides us with one half of what it takes to do His will & gives us the other half as our responsibility! That conveys trust. What do we do with trust from God?

Finally, we need a change beginning from our minds.

Romans 12:1-2

1 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual^a act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.'

Is it God's will for us to succeed in this life? Yes, spiritually. Does that mean HE will bless us materially? Maybe not in the capacity we desire. But the only way we know for sure what God's will is for us is to FIRST be a living sacrifice for Him. Think about an Old Testament sacrifice: a lamb, a goat,



a pigeon. Who decides its fate? Once the decision is made, how much say does a sacrifice have about its destiny?

God issues us a challenge: trust in Him first, then test His will. He has to be totally confident to make this statement. Let's take His word for it and learn to trust and obey.

Selfishness

Let's look at a passage that speaks directly to our hearts about what goes on inside us when we struggle with selfishness.

James 3:13-18

13 'Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. 14But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. 15Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. 16For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

17But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. 18Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.'

The Bible says in verse 16 that every evil practice finds its root in the sin of selfishness. It is not difficult to understand why. God made it clear we can only serve one master. If the master of our hearts is not Him, our sinful nature gets enhanced when we serve ourselves and as a result, all manner of "evil practices" springs forth.



What are we trying to protect/keep from others when we get selfish? In what way do we think we “benefit” from serving ourselves?

The Bible goes on to say:

Proverbs 18:1

1' An unfriendly man pursues selfish ends; he defies all sound judgment.'

Is this verse talking about an unfriendly person who is selfish, or a selfish individual who is not friendly? Perhaps there is a link between the two. Whatever the connection, the end is similar; such a person defies ALL sound judgment. In other words, there can be little/no reasoning with such an individual. When our minds are preoccupied pursuing our own goals, no advice seems to make sense to us. Who is leading us? What happened? Who cut in on the Spirit?

Galatians 5:16-21

16 'So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. 17For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. 18But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. 19The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions

21and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.'

In order to change our ways and change the course of our lives so that we can please God again, we need to change the driver at the helm of our lives. The Spirit needs to take over. Get rid of the guy at the wheel now. That guy is taking our soul and body for a ride out of God's favor. Who needs a bad driver when we have one readily willing to guide us to God's place eventually? We need to fire the bad captain (ourselves) and hire the Captain of our ship (Jesus) immediately.

How can we do that? How can the small group help us out?

Paul talks about what we should aim for in order to get back on track with God:

Philippians 2:1-4

1 'If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. 3Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.'



There is a way to change our inside if we start working on the outside at the same time. It's the age-old argument of "should I repent first then do righteous deeds, or should I start doing what is right then work on my heart change?" The answer is YES! We need to do both!

Start praying & asking God for a mind change but at the same time, the Bible says we can also start getting humble, think about others more than ourselves & consider their needs! Those are great practical advice we can stick to. Make a plan to serve each disciple in your Bible talk group. Ask someone to help us make a schedule & hold us accountable. Ask our buddy in our small group to help us do it together. Whatever it takes, if we train our minds to think less of ourselves and more of others, we move from being selfish to selfless.

What if we get stuck and run out of ideas on how we can change? The Bible says:

James 3:13-18

13 'Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. 14But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. 15Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. 16For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

17But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. 18Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.'

Whenever we lack insight into how we can change, we can ask God. But His wisdom does not mix well with selfishness. We need to keep purging selfish thoughts from our heart and mind for God to increase our wisdom.

Lastly, here is a prayer we need to pray daily if we struggle with selfishness:

Psalm 119:33-40

33 'Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees; then I will keep them to the end. 34 Give me understanding, and I will keep your law and obey it with all my heart. 35 Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight.

36 Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain. 37 Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word. ^[b] 38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, so that you may be feared.

39 Take away the disgrace I dread, for your laws are good. 40 How I long for your precepts! Preserve my life in your righteousness.'

Let's ask for help, get someone into our lives, stop being a Lone Ranger & turn our hearts back to God!