

## 2 Peter 1:19 “Why I Love the Bible” Discussion Questions

Purpose of Discussion: To get people to start reading the Bible for themselves.

Sermon Refresher: There is a lot of respect for the Bible but not much real engagement with it. But there are great reasons to love the Bible and really read it. We should love the Bible because

- It’s where God speaks to me.
- Without it I would be left to speculation and human opinion.
- It sustains me during difficult times.
- It teaches me who I am.
- It helps me fight against sin.
- It has answers that you can’t find on Google.
- It’s deep but can also be understood by children.
- It can be studied for a lifetime and not reach its depths.
- It points me to Jesus.

Discussion:

1. One reason to love the Bible is how it helps us fight sin. That ties in with what we talked about at small group last time: how to make progress in running the race, how to fight sin. The Exercise from last time took biblical promises and applied them to specific areas in our life, like anxiety or comparing ourselves to others. How did that go for you?
2. Most of us would probably say we don’t read our Bibles as much as we should or wish we did. What do you think keeps you from reading your Bible more often?
3. Keith gave multiple reasons that he loves the Bible. Which of those reasons hit home for you?
4. We all look to some kind of authority to guide us. The Bible is authoritative, because God has breathed it out (2 Tim 3:17) and speaks through it. What are other sources of authority that you look to that the Bible needs to trump? Where do you think you need to let the Bible be the authority in your life?

5. One of the reasons we don't read the Bible, or get a lot out of it when we do, is hurry and distraction. We're going to practice reading a biblical passage together, therefore, to help us see how to slow down and have a plan.<sup>1</sup>

Read Mark 5:1–20 aloud as a group and then give everyone a chance to read it silently. As you read, look for three types of things:



A light bulb: anything that shines out in the passage and draws attention; it can be something important, or something that particularly strikes you.



A question mark: anything that is hard to understand; something that you would like to be able to ask the author about.



An arrow: anything that applies personally to your life.

Take a few minutes to write down what you see. Try to write down at least one thing under each category and no more than three.

Mark 5:1–20



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<sup>1</sup> This plan comes from David Helm, *One to One Bible Reading* (Holy Trinity Church / Matthias, 2011), 43–45.

## 2 Peter 1:19 “Why I Love the Bible” Exercise

The exercise this week is to help you read the Bible for yourself. Over the course of this week (or two weeks), you can read or listen to Mark 1–3.<sup>2</sup> For each reading look for three things:<sup>3</sup>



A light bulb: anything that shines out in the passage and draws attention; it can be something important, or something that particularly strikes you.



A question mark: anything that is hard to understand; something that you would like to be able to ask the author about.



An arrow: anything that applies personally to your life.

Write down at least one thing under each category and no more than three things.

Mark 1:1–15



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<sup>2</sup> If you're enjoying this plan, then feel free to keep going beyond Mark 3.

<sup>3</sup> David Helm, *One to One Bible Reading* (Holy Trinity Church / Matthias, 2011), 43–45.

Mark 1:16–45



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Mark 2:1–28



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Mark 3:1–35



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