

Session 4

THE BIBLE

The word of the Lord?

Aims:

- To consider how we should interpret the Bible
- To understand the importance of studying scripture in context
- To explore what it means for the Bible to be inspired and have authority

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, or reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3 16

The Authority of Scripture
The Bible's theme-songs
The role of the Holy Spirit through the Church
The Interpretation of Scripture
Different things we bring to the Bible
Reading a text in its context:
Reading the Bible prayerfully

Session 5

THE BIBLE

Used, abused or gathering dust?

Aims:

- To enable group members to consider the different ways in which the bible is used
- To reflect upon how they personally utilise the bible

By steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. (Romans 15:4)

One Book – Many Uses
The Presentation Volume
The Member's Handbook
The Guide to Living
The Encyclopaedia
Inspirational Words
Poetry

What is the Bible and how do we use it?

Do you want to deepen your understanding of the Christian Faith?

Do you want to discuss and grapple with issues at greater depth ?

Are you seeking to apply the Bible in your everyday life?

For further details, please contact

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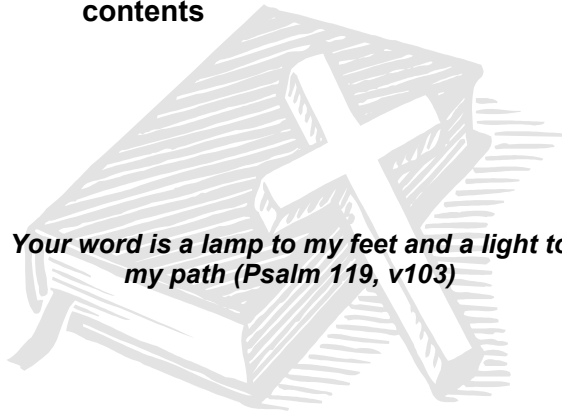


Session 1 **THE BIBLE**

**What is it? What's in it?
How did it get there?**

Aims:

- To discover where the Bible came from
- To become more familiar with its contents



Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path (Psalm 119, v103)

Overview of the Bible
Seeing the Bible whole
The God of scripture
Discovering the books of the Bible
Where did the Bible come from?

- Old Testament
- New Testament

What is the Bible about?



Session 2 **THE BIBLE**

Who? When? Where?

Aims:

- To consider key events and periods of biblical times
- To recognise the geography
- To gain an overview of the political and economic background of the times

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. (Romans 15: 4)

Timeline of Biblical period
Geography of the Biblical world
Economics and politics of Biblical times



Session 3 **THE BIBLE**

One book Many voices

Aims:

- to gain a general understanding of how our Bible texts arrived at their present form
- to consider the variety of kinds of literature (genre) and style in the Bible.
- to explore some of the implications for our own use of the Bible

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life 1 John 1:

Which Version?
Bible Language and Sources
So where is the truth?
The Bible as a Library
Types of Literature in the Bible
Getting a Message Over
Reading a Text