

YOBL

Year of Biblical Literacy

Week 10: Reflection on YOBL so far

Daily Reading for Week

- Deuteronomy 28-29, Psalm 62
- Deuteronomy 30-31, Psalm 63
- Deuteronomy 32-34, Psalm 64
- Joshua 1-4, Psalm 65
- Joshua 5-8, Psalm 66
- Joshua 9-12, Psalm 67
- Joshua 13-21, Psalm 68

Focus of time together

To reflect on our first two months of the year as we've journeyed together through the Year of Biblical Literacy.

Opening Prayer

Intro to Discussion

We are ten weeks into our Year of Biblical Literacy and are wrapping up the Torah (the first five books of the Bible). At this point, we want to pause to take a step back from the Scriptures, focusing not on the Torah itself but on how we've experienced our journey through the Torah together.

Whole Group Discussion (20 minutes)

1. How have you found the Year of Biblical Literacy so far?
2. How have you found the discipline of reading/listening to your bible every day?
3. Are there any ways as a group you could better support one another as you journey through scripture together?

Exercise (20 minutes)

Ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind any major themes, ideas, emotions or experiences you remember from the past 10 weeks while reading the Torah. Write down these themes, ideas, emotions, or experiences. You could do this together on a large sheet of paper or on smaller pieces individually - then sharing with the group what has struck you most from scripture so far or any new things you have learnt.

Structural Examen for your Group (20 minutes)

These questions are to help us examine how well we are honouring the intended structure of our time together as well as our commitment to one another.

1. Do we begin and end group when we say we will?
2. Are there any changes that need to be made to our structure to better support our community?
3. Silently reflect on whether you can truthfully say that you are committed to the group. Are there any ways that you feel you need to increase this commitment? For example - participating more in discussion, supporting other members more at other times in the week, increasing attendance, helping lead etc. Write this down and pray about it over the coming week. Seek to act on whatever you feel God is calling you to do.

Bible Study

If you still have time, take a chapter from any of the daily readings from the past week and use the bible study method detailed below to help you look at it together.

Discovery Bible Method

Discovery Bible Method (DBM) allows participants to discover God's truth for themselves, rather than relying on a leader. As the leader, you are there to empower them and to pray, not to have all the answers. The DBM method is as simple as A-B-C

Ask

Ask each person how they went with the previous week's commitment.

"How did you go with _____?"

"Who did you tell?"

Bible

Have someone read the passage above aloud, then ask someone else to re-read the passage. Have the participants retell the story from memory. Spend some minutes silently reading the passage again. Silently pray for God to speak directly from the passage. Ask open-ended questions, such as:

"What do you see?"

"What does this say about God?"

"What does this say about us?"

"What is God saying to you?"

Let the participants do most of the talking and don't be afraid of silences.

If the session veers off course, you can ask,

"Where do you see that in the Bible?"

Commit

Let them suggest their own commitment to whatever God is saying to them.

Ask them:

"What are you going to do?"

"Who are you going to tell?"

Closing Prayer (15 minutes)

Pray together about all that has been shared and thought about this evening. Thank God for all the things you have learnt.

Pray for your community as a whole, that any changes in structure you implement would be beneficial in helping your community grow more in love with Jesus and learning more about him.

Pray for any individual needs within your community.