

Life-Sharing Lesson 1—The Authority Of The Bible
Proverbs 2:1:1-15 Timothy 3:16 1

1. What was your first memory of the bible and how was it used?

2. The Bible is called the “word of God.” Is that the same thing as what we find in John 1:1-2 **John 1:1-2 (NIV)** ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning.

3. Is everything in the bible of equal importance today?

4. Is everything in the Bible true?

5. If a person had just given their hearts to the Lord, where is the best place to have them start reading the Bible?

6. How do we handle things that seem to contradict each other in the Bible?

Luke 18:35-38 (NIV)

³⁵ As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶ When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening. ³⁷ They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." ³⁸ He called out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Matthew 20:29-30 (NIV)

²⁹ As Jesus and his disciples were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. ³⁰ Two blind men were sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was going by, they shouted, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!"

7. How do you respond to the person who says, “the Bible is too hard to understand, especially Revelations, so I don’t read it.”

8. How do we handle the situation where one person says something is wrong, and another thinks its okay, and the Bible does not clearly state it one way or the other? (Read 1 Corinthians 8:1-11)

9. How do we handle the situation in which the Bible says a behavior is wrong, but the society approves it? Does society’s approval by the majority override a biblical prohibition? For instance sexual immorality, where people choose to live together, but the passage is clear on sexual immorality. **1 Corinthians 6:18-20 (NIV)**

¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

10. Does our love for another person, gives us the right to over rule the teachings of the Bible?

11. What is the purpose of the Scriptures according to itself? **2 Timothy 3:16 (NIV)** ¹⁶
All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. Which of the four purposes do we have the most problem with today?

12. How does a Christian balance loving a person, without approving of their sin. For instance, how do you love your neighbor who you know is a drug dealer in the community?

13. How do you feel God wants you to consider the authority of the Bible for your life?

Life-Sharing Lesson 2—40 Days Of Community 1 Corinthians 12:12-26

Why We Need Each Other.

1. When was there a time in your life when you were glad that you were not by yourself?

1 Corinthians 12:12-26 (NIV)

¹² The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

¹⁴ Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be?

¹⁸ But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be?

²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it,

²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

1. Why do you think we are referred to as the body of Christ?

2. What comes to mind when you hear the word community?

3. How is body language more intimate than community language?

. Colossians 2:6-7 says *“Just as you received Christ Jesus the Lord so walk in Him.”*

4. *Why do we need others to walk with us in our journey?*

1 Corinthians 12:27-30 (NIV)

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸ And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?

5. What are some of the positive benefits of walking together in the church?

6. What do you think God meant when he said, “it was not good for man to be alone.”

Ecclesiastes 2:18-20 (NLT)

¹⁸ I came to hate all my hard work here on earth, for I must leave to others everything I have earned. ¹⁹ And who can tell whether my successors will be wise or foolish? Yet they will control everything I have gained by my skill and hard work under the sun. How meaningless!

²⁰ So I gave up in despair, questioning the value of all my hard work in this world.

7. What do you think is going to be the difference for the person who seeks to base life on achievement rather than relationships?

1 Corinthians 14:26-28 (NIV)

²⁶ What then shall we say, brothers? When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church. ²⁷ If anyone speaks in a tongue, two--or at the most three--should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. ²⁸ If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and God.

8. Why is small group something that should be done in conjunction with the larger church?

Philippians 2:3-4 (NIV)

³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. ⁴ Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

9. How do we look out for one another's interest in a world that teaches, "stay out of my business."?

10. How do we look out for the best interest for the church in the way we choose to make decisions for our lives?

11. When was a time you were glad to have someone to cry with you?

Romans 12:15 (NLT) ¹⁵ Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep.

12. Why do we all need someone to be happy with us and to cry with us?

13.. What steps can you take to make yourself more open to community life in the church?

Life-Sharing Lesson 3 40 Days Of Community Reaching Out Together

Matthew 28:18-20

1. When did having a partner of some kind make a big difference for you?

Matthew 28:18-20 (NLT)

¹⁸ Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

2. What feelings do you have about this verse? Eager To Do It, Reluctantly doing it, Wish it was not there?

3. What happens when we focus on the verse part of verse 19, while forgetting the last part of verse 20?

2 Corinthians 8:23 (NIV)

²³ As for Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker among you; as for our brothers, they are representatives of the churches and an honor to Christ.

4. What do you think it means for us to partner together in ministry?

Romans 5:10-11 (NIV) ¹⁰ For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be

saved through his life! ¹¹ Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

5. Why should we care about people who are not saved? After all, aren't they enemies of God?

6. How have we gotten a bad name as Christians in the eyes of non-believers?

1 Peter 3:15 (NIV) ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened." ¹⁵ But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

7. Why is it important to be willing to tell our story or what God has done for us?

Psalm 66:16 (NIV)

¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me.

8. Are you willing to tell your story for our services? Why or why not?

Romans 12:9 (NIV)

⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

9. How long should a person work with a non-believer before moving on to someone else? Is it wrong to be kind to a person just to get them to come to church

10. Is it possible to tell, which one of our contacts will be the most productive to the kingdom of God?

11. Why is it important for us to remember that reaching people with the gospel of Jesus Christ is a team experience?

12. Why do you think a person hears the gospel about seven times before making a decision to follow Christ?

13. Are you willing to pray, Lord use me this week to make a difference in someone's life.