

---

# Bible:

## Why and how do I read the Bible?

---

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

The Discussion Guide has three parts:

- Discussion Questions
- Episode Summary
- Tips & Guidelines for Hosting Discussion

*Make sure to mention the details for your upcoming Alpha Weekend. Remind your group where, when, and what it is.*

---

### Q1

**Imagine you are stranded on a deserted island and you can only bring three things with you. What would they be?**

#### SUPPORTING QUESTIONS

- If your house was burning down, and all your family and pets and phone were totally safe, what *one thing* would you take with you?
- What is your favourite book? (If someone says the Bible, ask for their second favourite book.)

---

### Q2

**What do you think the purpose of the Bible is today?**

#### SUPPORTING QUESTIONS

- Do you think the ideas in the Bible are old-fashioned or outdated?
- Do you think the Bible is worth reading today? Why or why not?

---

### Q3

**Have you ever tried reading the Bible? How'd it go?**

#### SUPPORTING QUESTIONS

- Do any quotes from the Bible stand out or have special meaning to you?
- Have you ever heard somebody teach from the Bible and you connected with it?

---

## MORE QUESTIONS

*(Lots of groups leave 10–20 minutes after the episode is done for more conversation.)*

- What do you think about today's episode?
- Did anything stand out to you?
- What are your biggest questions when it comes to the Bible?
- How do you feel about the idea of God speaking to us through the Bible?
- Jassie and Peter gave seven tips for reading the Bible (get a Bible, find a time and place, don't flip and point, genre matters, ask lots of questions, pray, talk to people). Which of these, if any, stands out to you?
- Why would governments not want the Bible in their country?

# Episode Summary

## BIG IDEA

The Bible is the primary way God speaks to us and reveals himself to us. The Bible points us to Jesus and gives us instructions for living. Through the Bible, we're invited to connect with God and build a day-to-day relationship with Jesus.

## KEY QUOTES & SCRIPTURES

**All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.**

**2 TIMOTHY 3:16–17**

**God's word is our highest authority for what we believe and for how we live.**

**The Bible is a guide – it shows us how to live and it gives us boundaries.**

**Reading the Bible generates life. It produces change. It heals hurts. It builds character. It transforms circumstances. It imparts joy. It overcomes adversity. It defeats temptation. It infuses hope. It releases power. It cleanses the mind.**

**RICK WARREN**

**It's like the entire Bible is one big arrow pointing us to Jesus. And this is the number one thing God wants to show us – himself.**

## Tips & Guidelines for Hosting Discussion

Discussion in small groups is the most important part of every Alpha session. Hosting a discussion on Alpha is not about re-teaching any of the content from the episode – the goal is to create a safe place where everyone can share openly and honestly about their thoughts and feelings and ask questions. Remember, the discussion guide is just a guide. Use these questions to spark conversations and bring it back on track when needed.

Alpha is a journey. The more time you spend together as a group, the more people will feel free to open up and share their opinions.

## GUIDELINES FOR THE GROUP

- You don't have to talk if you don't want to
- You can ask or say just about anything  
*(as long as you aren't putting other people down or making it so others can't talk)*
- Respect each other by listening and welcoming different opinions
- Keep things confidential when you leave the group

## TIPS FOR HOSTS & HELPERS

- Remember names
- Pray
- Be committed
- Show up early to welcome guests
- Stay long enough to chat with guests afterwards
- Keep the conversation alive and balanced
- Be encouraging
- End on time
- If time allows, debrief with your Alpha team to celebrate wins, chat about challenges and share prayer requests