

# LESSON 7:

## BIBLE



### AIM:

To show that the Bible is an essential part of the life of a Christian. That it is both God's love letter to his creation and a powerful weapon for the Christian to use. That it is through the book that we get to the author and the book is only a vehicle to help us get to our destination.

### YOU WILL NEED:

- Actual Reality CD
- Computer
- LCD Projector (depending on size of the group)
- Large chair or house brick
- Bibles

### CD:

[Follow these screen clicks to get to 'coming attractions']



### BIBLE & DISCUSSION:

What follows are the members of the band 'Out of Eden' talking about their experiences of the Bible. Lead the group in the discussion around these points

[Click once on the words Out of Eden at the bottom of the screen. The words of Psalm 119:9-11 disappear to reveal a member of the band describing what the Bible means to them. After they have spoken lead the discussion using these questions.]

#### Knowing God's word: Psalm 119:9-11

- A) Why was it that she felt she needed to know a word from God?
- B) What do you think it means to be planted in the word of God?

#### Helpful point

- Try to leave this bit of the discussion with them realising that God's word is absolutely vital for getting through life, and we need to really know it so it is as important to us as breathing.

[Click on the words 'Out of Eden' again to the next member of the band.]

*Again lead the discussion using these questions.*

#### Studying God's word: Psalm 40:1+2

- C) Is reading the Bible as much as the girl described too much in your opinion?
- D) Why do you think you would want to read the Bible that much?

#### Helpful Point

- Leave this section with them feeling that if they want to know God better there is no substitute for spending time with him.

## Loving God's word: 2 Timothy 3:16+17

- E) The Bible talks about how wonderful God is and what our response to that should be; does anyone think that that is selfish on God's part?
- F) Who's ever been in love?
- G) When you're in love with someone how much time do you want to spend with them, talking with them and listening to them and telling them how great you think they **are**?

### Helpful Point

- Try to leave this section with the fact that if you're in love with God you want to spend as much time as you can with him and find out as much about him as you can; reading and studying his word is one of the best ways we can do that.

Get the group in their Bibles to turn to 1 Peter 5:8+9, read it out

[click on 'Out of Eden' again to take you to the next section. Two band members talk in this section.]

## Using God's word 1 Peter 5:8+9

- H) What does being an overcomer mean?
- I) Who are we overcoming?
- J) How can we use the Bible to resist the devil?

### Helpful Point

- Explain that the Bible is also a weapon that God has given us to defeat the devil. As we get closer to God and find out more of what he wants our lives to be like, we can stand up and say 'No' when the Devil tempts us to live in different ways.

[Click on 'Out of Eden' again to take you to the penultimate section.]

## Following God's word: Psalm 119:105

Read Psalm 119:105

- K) Is this for all of our lives or only when we're in difficult situations?
- L) Why would we want to apply what God says to every area of our lives?
- M) How can we do that?

### Helpful Point

- Explain that God wants to be involved in every single area of our lives whether big or small, good or bad, and that it is by asking God to lead us and by reading his word daily that that begins to happen.

[Click on 'Out of Eden' for the last section]

## Sharing God's word: Acts 17:11

- N) The Bible tells us to tell others about him, why is it important to know God's word as you're doing that?
- O) How do you think the Bible will be helpful when telling other people about God?

### Helpful Point

- In summing up the discussion say that the most important thing about the Bible is that it is a pathway for us to get to God. We don't worship a book but the person who wrote it and the Bible is the best way for us to do that.

## ACTIVITY:

How strong are you?

Select a strong lad or a lad that thinks he's very strong and a girl who isn't very strong to take part in the activity. Using your chair or the brick say to the lad that he has to pick it up with one finger. He won't be able to do it. Then say to the girl that she can pick it up with her whole hand. Then say to the boy that he can pick it up with two fingers. He may find this a little easier. Carry on till he picks the chair or brick up with his whole hand.

Explain that it didn't matter how big or strong we thought we were when we used our whole hand we were able to carry the brick or chair carefully and effectively. It's the same with the Bible we need to really know it and use it well for it to be the powerful weapon it's supposed to be.

## ACTIVITY:

### **The word of God is a powerful weapon in your hand:**

Take a Bible, place it on one finger and thrust it forward as using it as a sword. You may drop it or at the very least you will find it very difficult. Continue to do it using two fingers, then three, four and five.

Then hold it in your full hand and thrust it forward again saying that you can now use it safely and very effectively. Explain that it's the same with the Bible. We need to hear the word, read the word, study it, meditate on it, memorise it and apply it. When we do that the Bible becomes the powerful and effective weapon that God intended it to be.

## DISCUSS:

Lead a discussion on the above points.

There is no short cut in this. If we want to use the word of God well and we want it to make a difference in our lives then it requires commitment, like any relationship does. Explain that meditate means just to chew over and over in your mind till it becomes an active part of your life.

*How best can we go about achieving the correct use of the Bible?*

### **Helpful Points**

- Emphasise the importance of being in love with God because when we are in love things aren't a chore but a natural expression of our lives and something that we want, are even desperate, to do.

## ACTIVITY:

Personalise John 3:16:

Get a member of the group to read out the passage. Then get each member of the group to write out the verse again replacing 'the world' with their name.

How does this make group members feel?

## DISCUSS:

The Bible is God's love letter to us. He loves us so much, he was prepared to die for us, he sings over us (Zephaniah 3:17), he has plans to prosper us and not to harm us (Jeremiah 29:11)

*What is our response to that kind of love?*

[If you feel you want to do some kind of prayer and response at this point then go for it!]

## CONCLUSION:

**At the end of this session the group will hopefully know that the Bible is the word of God. That it is both God's love letter to us, his creation and also a powerful weapon that he has given us to use against the devil and in resisting temptation. Above all that it is a way of bringing us closer and helping us to fall in love with the author God himself.**