

Setting Expectations

What this class is:

1. A _____ to help us break down where we are on our spiritual walk specifically in regards to reading the Bible.
2. A series of messages, with audio/visual examples, _____ jokes, and shenanigans about why we need to read the Bible and what we should expect out of it.
3. **An encouragement and empowerment to read the Bible _____.**
4. This class is going to deal in _____ not _____ examples of what a Christian should do. I may say a Christian should do this, or a non-Christian looks like this. But these are general comments, not talking about anyone specifically. After all, even Paul says, “the things I don’t wanna do, I do. And the things I want to do I don’t do” (Rom 7:15). Paul was a Christian.
5. We are not here to _____ anyone, including some those who wrote the quotes we may show. Quotes can be taken out of context. Some quotes are still true, even if they aren’t Biblical.

Is the Water Cold?

Week 1: Dipping Your Toes

PROFILE OF THE TOE DIPPERS

- _____ *Spiritual People*
- *Positivity and happiness are _____*
- *Focus on feeling _____*
- _____ *bumper stickers*
- *Any _____ is fair game*
- *Bible is blah except for stuff about _____ & Peace*
- *Make a lot of stuff up*
- *Can’t differentiate between Biblical and _____*

Matthew 13:7 says of these kinds of people, “Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants.” Jesus says that these people don’t _____.

These are non-believers, but don’t actually _____ it. Not anti-Christian, but more of a pantheistic, open spirituality.

Many times, they will call themselves, “_____.”

Dipping Your Toes

Why Should We Read the Bible? p1

The short answer: because _____.

God is:

1. The one who exists (Exodus 3:14-15), "I am who I am"
2. Immortal / uncreated (1 Timothy 6:16, Psalm 90:2)
3. Glorious (Every. Where.)
4. Spirit (John 4:24)
5. Unique (Isaiah 40:25)
6. All Powerful (Jeremiah 32:27)
7. Knows Everything:

I am God, and there is no other;

I am God, and there is none like me.

*I make known the end from the beginning,
from ancient times, what is still to come.*

*I say, 'My purpose will stand,
and I will do all that I please.'*

-Isaiah 46:9b-10

8. Everywhere (Psalm 139:7-10)
9. Perfect (Matthew 5:48)
10. Good (Psalm 145:9)
11. Holy (1 Peter 1:15-16)
12. Faithful & True (Isaiah 25:1)
13. Sovereign (Psalm 9:7-8)
14. Love (1 John 4:8)
15. Just (Deuteronomy 13:4)
16. Life (John 14:6)

(Thanks to <http://www.ichthys.com/1Theo.htm> for this list.)

We know these things about God because we have the _____.

If God is this great – and he is! – and we can learn about him in the Bible, wouldn't we want to know more?

A question that I am humbled by sometimes is this: do I really want to know more or am I satisfied with my level of understanding?

The answer is clearly revealed by how much, often and deeply we study the Bible.

Home Work

Each week, we will try out different ways of diving into the word. This week we will start with:

Daily Devotionals

Every day, I'd like you to read your choice of the devotionals that I will send you links for (either online or via the Bible App) or post in our group on Facebook (Dive into the Bible public group).

You're here +

I just went over why it matters =
Dive into the Bible

NEXT WEEK: The Jacuzzi where we learn about the self-focused semi-religious trap that so many fall into. And we continue to learn about why we would want to read the Bible.

Dipping Your Toes

Dive Into The Bible

with Scott Asher

Week 1 Oct 7	Week 2 Oct 14	Week 3 Oct 28	Week 4 Nov 4	Week 5 Nov 11	Week 6 Nov 18	Week 7 Dec 2
Dipping Your Toes & Intro	The Jacuzzi	The Kiddie Pool	The Shallow End	The Deep End	The High Dive	The Swim Test & Potluck
<p>The Spiritual</p> <p>Does not understand.</p> <p>“Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants.” Matt 13:7</p>	<p>The Self Focused</p> <p>The worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word.</p> <p>“As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up.” Matt 13:4</p>	<p>Decision Point</p> <p>Will trouble or persecution result in quickly falling away?</p> <p>“Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.” Matt 13:5-6</p>	<p>The Immature Believer</p> <p>“I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.” 1 Cor 3:2</p>	<p>The Mature Believer</p> <p>“Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.” Matt 3:8</p>	<p>The Specialist</p> <p>“Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.” Acts 17:11</p>	<p>A recap of the class, with pre and post test growth, decision points on how to read the word. Takeaways.</p>

Pre Text, or Test

Take a few minutes and answer the following questions:

1. How often do you read the Bible (read or audio)?
2. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is boring as all heck, and 10 is the most exciting thing ever, how would you rate reading the Bible?
3. What does "Testament" mean?
4. The Bible is a love letter to us, right?
5. Other than John 3:16, how many verses do you have memorized?
6. When was the last time you memorized a verse on purpose?
7. Other than listening to the preacher on Sunday at your local church, when was the last time you listened to a different sermon? (You know, for fun.)
8. Have you ever listened to a podcast of a sermon?
9. Have you ever tried listening to an audio Bible?
10. Do you read a daily devotional?
11. How often do you read books about the Bible?
12. How often do you read books that challenge you to grow as a Christian?
13. Do you journal daily/ multiple times a week?
14. What does "Apologetics" mean?
15. Why should we read the Bible?
16. If we don't read the Bible we will go to Hell, right?