

Helpful resources

- Journaling Bible – NIV, ESV
- Prepared study material – e.g. the Good Book Guides
- Tim Chester – Life with Jesus (12 sessions)

Two simple frameworks for Bible reading with someone else

See separate handout

- The Swedish method
 - The COMA method
-

Think it through...

- How could reading the Bible one-to-one with someone else help grow you as a disciple of Jesus? How could it help to grow them?
- Who do you know who might benefit from a one-to-one? Why?
- In what ways do you feel you need to be equipped to read the Bible one-to-one with someone else?

Further reading

Sopie De Witt. One-to-one: A Discipleship Handbook. Authentic, 2003.
David Helm. One-to-one Bible reading. Matthias Media, 2011.

How to read the Bible one-to-one



For starters

- Who were the key people who influenced you in your Christian life? What was it about them that made them so influential?
-

A definition of one-to-one Bible reading

“One Christian helping another grow as a disciple of Jesus through reading the Bible together, praying for one another, and sharing their lives together”

Look at the following passages:

Matthew 28:18-20
Colossians 1:28-29
Ephesians 4:11-16

- What vision for discipleship do we get from these passages – both individually and as a church family together?
- How could reading the Bible one-to-one help different people grow as disciples of Jesus – e.g.:
 - Someone who isn't a Christian
 - Someone who is a new Christian
 - Someone who has been a Christian for a long time
- How could reading the Bible one-to-one with someone help us grow as disciples of Jesus who make disciples for Jesus in the places he has placed us?

1 Thessalonians 2:8 –

“Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.”

One-to-one discipleship in the Bible

- Jesus and his disciples – Peter, James, John
- Paul and his companions – e.g. Timothy, Titus
- Passing the baton in 2 Timothy 2:2 – *“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.”*
- The “one another” commands - e.g.
 - Love one another (John 13:34)
 - Instruct one another (Romans 15:14)
 - Speak the truth in love to one another (Eph 4:15)
 - Build one another up (Eph 4:29)
 - Encourage one another (Hebrews 3:13)
 - Spur one another on to love & good deeds (Hebrews 10:24)
 - Confess your sins to one another (James 5:16)
 - Pray for one another (Eph 6:18)

Reading the Bible one-to-one

- **Simple, universal, and meets the discipleship needs of very different people**
- **“Any committed Christian is capable of initiating a good conversation on a biblical text” (David Helm)**

Why don't we do this?

- The fear of getting it wrong?
- The fear of looking arrogant asking someone to meet with us?
- We just feel too busy?
- We don't know where to start?
- Other reasons...?

What's involved in reading the Bible one-to-one?

- PRAY – remember your total dependence on God to be at work
- LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD – “All Scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness” to equip us “for every good work” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- LOVE ONE ANOTHER – share the gospel and your lives together

A typical one-to-one meeting

- **Pray – ask God to speak to each of you**
- **Read the Bible passage out loud together – alternate between the two of you**
- **Talk together – “What do you think?”**
- **Apply the passage to everyday life – “How will God's word change our lives for the better this week?”**
- **Pray together – sharing some prayer requests**
- **Confirm your next meeting time**

Who should you meet with?

- Anyone with a spiritual hunger – non-Christian, new Christian, established Christian

How regularly should you meet?

- Ideally, weekly or fortnightly is best
- Agree on initial time-span – 6 weeks? 3 months?
- Can be sensible not to commit to meeting one-to-one for more than 1-2 years – avoids dependence developing; encourages both people to consider meeting with someone else one-to-one in the future

What to study together

- A book of the Bible you know well
- A gospel (e.g. Mark)? A NT letter (Colossians, Philippians, 1 Peter)?