



Discussion Questions for the week of October 9th

BIG IDEA: Many of us have grown up knowing or quickly grown to know the resounding anthem: Read your Bible. The thing is most of us don't know the true *How* or *Why*. In this series we are going to start with the fundamentals- How should we handle scripture. Why do we need to read a book authored hundreds of years ago?

What does the process of reading the Bible look like for you? Is that a part of your daily routine or when would you make time? Do you know where you'd start or what to read?

ICE BREAKER:

Set up and facilitate the "observations" game from REM cycle. Could bring a prize like pack of gum or just create one out of the snack pool for the week. 😊

DISCUSSION:

- How would you go about finding a verse on a particular topic (anger, pride, etc.) in the Bible without using google or searching in an app?
(Kids may have no solution- show the concordance)
- Read 1 John 1:1-5. (Ignore that verse 5 is in a new subheading.) What was the purpose of John writing this letter?
- It was meant to be an encouragement, not a text book.
- With a fresh start in a book or even in a new chapter in a book we always look to verse 1. To set the stage for what's happening. Lets just cross reference with Philipians 1 real quick. Flip there and look at the first 2 verses only and then we're coming right back to 1 John.
- Philipians 1:1-2. Who is writing the book? Who is their audience? What do you gather will be the general tone based on the intro?
Back to 1 John
- Ok so now in 1 John verse 1-2 do we see any of that set up? Could we determine writer and audience? (The answer may be not yet, and remind them that's ok, we might have to just gather that info as our study goes on.) Does anyone's bible tell them that in a pre-chapter commentary of sorts? (allow them to share if so...)
- Last thing to consider before we go on observing, do we have any of those "Pause words" like Paul, our guest speaker, mentioned last week? Are we starting with a "therefore" or "after all these things" are there any phrases or words that should make us pause and look backwards in scripture for context?
Not yet 😊
- (Might need to read verses 1-5 again to remind everyone where we are now/still.) Looking back through those 5 verses there's a couple words that are interchangeable and also repeated a bit. Can you count how many times "Testify" /"Proclaim" /"declare" is used. Why do you think we keep using that language? *Remember we wil "apply this soon" but right now we're still observing
- Looking still just in the first 5 verses how many times is the word "fellowship" used? What is a fellowship?
- Lets look at verse 6 & 7 now. What familiar words are there? (Fellowship) What are our options for "fellowship" in these verses?
- Now move on to read verses 8-10. Looking at those 3 verses as sentences do you notice any common patterns with these 3 verses? – Notice there's a pattern: Claim, Confess, Claim. What are our 3 options presented in this pattern? Vs. 8, we are disillusioned / fool ourselves. Vs. 9 would be what God calls us to Vs. 10 we are liars and oppose God
- Given the options of the last 3 verses what camp do you want to fall in? What do you want to "declare" or testify to? Where do you want your fellowship to be?

KEEP IT GOING (YOU GOT THIS):

- Question 11, was not application. Remember that's the 3rd step- we're observing first, then interpreting, then applying God's word to our lives. That process of slowing down to deepen our intake takes practice
- Instead of calling this section "Application" this section is more of our challenge for you: For this next week read 1 John 2 each day. Read it slow and engage with the text by asking yourself questions about the chapter. Come ready to dive into it again at Wake on Sunday.
- Journal your thoughts and questions and share them with your parents, small group, or friend.
- Ask yourself this:What is you're heart behind reading Scripture? Is it something you do because you are supposed to or is it something you do because it is the Word of God. Pray for God to give you a desire for His word this week.