

Start Here

Week 1 – Start With The Gospel

Teaching Notes

Isaiah 55:8-9

*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways... As the heavens are **higher** than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”*

Start With The Bible

1. The Bible can be **trusted**.
2. The Bible teaches us God’s **perspective**.
Proverbs 14:12, Isaiah 45:9, James 1:25
3. The Bible is the story of **Jesus**.
John 1:1-5, Ecclesiastes 3:11

Start with the Jesus

1. God created you to **belong**.
2. Sin **separates** us from God.
Romans 5:12, Romans 5:17
3. Jesus brings us back to **God**.
Romans 10:9, John 1:12
4. *Jesus brings us back to* **each other**.
John 1:12-13, John 3:3

Small Group Discussion Guide

Overview

In a world full of information and with the internet at our fingertips, we can find out the answer to just about anything. Having that access can be a good thing, but one needs to remember that what is being accessed is someone’s opinion, perhaps based on research, and perhaps not. Regardless, when a person really needs guidance and advice, the Bible is the source of truth; it can be trusted.

Opening Question

Share your experience with reading the Bible and learning God’s word growing up.

Read & Discuss

1. **Read** *Isaiah 55:8-9, Proverbs 14:12, Isaiah 45:9, James 1:25, Ecclesiastes 3:11*

Discuss What do you know about God’s perspective from reading these Scriptures, and what are things that can get in the way of you learning about God’s ways?

2. **Read** *Romans 5:12, 5:17*

Discuss Whether or not you think there would still be sin in the world if it were not for Adam and Eve.

Discuss Death and separation exist because Adam and Eve sinned. How does the thought of others being separated from God influence the way you treat those around you?

3. **Read** *Romans 10:9, John 1:12-13*

Discuss Throughout the Bible there are stories of how God's children sinned against Him and rejected Him, yet He wanted them back. In our own sin, God created a way back to Him through Jesus Christ. Why do you think God wants us back?

Discuss How do these scriptures speak to you regarding your relationship with God and with each other?

For Further Study

Read

Genesis

John 1:1-5

Romans 14:8

Isaiah

Psalms 100:3

John 3:16