

KNOW IT. LIVE IT.

Psalm 19:7-14

Identity, 2



Week two in the Identity series was another good one. The Bible is at the forefront of everything we do. At least it is supposed to be. For many of us, spending time with the Bible can be intimidating, tiring, and even frightening. It is easy to think of it as a grand source of rules and a list of all the things we should and shouldn't do. We forget the amazing beauty and power that resides within the pages of this amazing book. We forget the power it has to give us meaningful lives. This week we'll talk about the ways we interact with the Bible and how we need to adjust our attitudes. Ready? Let's dig in.

"The Lord of the dance summons us to the floor, and it takes time and discipline to learn the steps, to cease tripping over our own feet, and to experience the obedient freedom of following God's lead." Craig Dykstra

Dykstra's quote provides an interesting glimpse into his interaction with God. It is always interesting to observe the different ways people think about Him. Begin your time together by sharing how you think about God.

Our MISSION is . . .

to magnify the name of Jesus as we learn to know and love God, live in Biblical community, and love others with our gifts and our story.

Why is articulating our mission so important for us as a church?
Tell the group about a person who truly magnifies God's name.

What is your mission for your own life?
How are you sharing your life and story with others?

Being "truth-centered" requires that

1. We view the Bible as being the very words of God. verses 7-9

The words in the first column describe God's word. Those in the second column describe its affect on us.

Just Right

Satisfies

Straight

Rest

Enlightening

Encouraging

Pure

Abundant Life

Faithful

Right with God

What do we run to when life is hard?

What are some other ways we often interact with the Bible?

How do the ways we think about the Bible affect how we hear it?

Which description is most meaningful for you? Why?

Therefore . . .

2. We are passionate about the text. verses 10-11

The value of the text is unparalleled. (gold/warning)

The pleasure from the text is unsurpassed. (honey/reward)

3. We open our hearts in prayerful response. verses 12-13

The text leads us to repentance. (hidden sins)

The text leads us to reliance. (willful sins)

4. We are purposeful in integrating the text into our lives. verse 14

Our goal is to know the text. (meditation)

Our goal is to live the text. (words of my mouth)

When have you experienced the power of the Bible in your life?

How does the Bible show us how to interact with sin?

Why is it often difficult to spend time with the Bible?

What is the link between memorization and application?

Application

What one thing will you work on this week?

Spend just a little more time in the Word than normal.

Prayer

Remember to pray for those new to the church or just getting involved. Pray they would be able to get connected quickly. Consider reaching out and including new members into your group. Pray about this as a group. Individually pray for one specific person who does not know Christ. Pray that you can be a good influence in their lives.