

## Talk It Over

*Questions are prepared each week and are designed to prompt insights, questions, and the life experience of each listener. If these are used immediately following the sermon, it would be much the same as what was done in Israel at the time of the early church.*

### Discuss

1. How were you taught to read the Bible? If someone asked you “How do you understand the Bible and apply what it says to your life?” what would you say?
2. Why do people often treat the Bible like a spreadsheet or data file? What is the limitation of citing chapter and verse as a way of explaining what the Bible says about a particular issue or topic?
3. The Jewish people of Jesus’ day interpreted the scriptures in conversation with each other. What is the benefit of this practice? Why don’t we use this approach more often today?
4. Can you think of an issue or topic that changes or “develops” over the pages of the Bible? Give an example of something that is presented one way early in the Biblical record, and in a different way later on. What does this show us about how the Bible should be read?
5. How should our experience inform our reading of the Bible? How did Jesus adjust his application of the scriptures to his experience? What role should experience play in determining how the Bible should be understood?
6. What has been your experience of the Bible as the “breath of God?” How has your reading of the Bible been like God breathing into you? Why is “God-breathed” a good description to use of the Bible’s contents?
7. Do you have a practice of reading the Bible regularly? What does that practice look like? How did you begin this practice? What is the benefit of this practice to you?



### Wrap Up

Spend time praying for each other.