



Asking questions is an act of faith. Many people today are raising serious doubts about God, the Bible, and Christian beliefs. What if, instead of feeling threatened by our critics, Christians addressed the skeptic's questions as the beginning of a potentially life-changing journey? Join us as we wrestle with - and answer - some of the most profound questions that people are asking about faith today!

Group Discussion Guide: April 21

If you look back through your life has your view of the Bible changed over time? When did you trust the Bible the most, and why?

Why should anyone trust the Bible?

According to a recent Gallup poll, around _____ of all Americans believe that the Bible "is a collection of legends, fables, history, and moral precepts recorded by man,". Only _____ of Americans believe the Bible is "the actual word of God and is to be taken literally", and _____ believe that the Bible is "inspired by God" but is not to be taken literally. Which category would you say you're in today, and why?

Let's examine what the Bible says about...*the Bible!* **Read 2 Timothy 3:16 and Hebrews 4:12.** What do these passages say about Scripture, and how should this shape the way Christians approach the Bible?

Think for a moment about your most skeptical friends and family (or perhaps even yourself): what are some of their (or your) most pressing questions or objections when it comes to the Bible?

One of the most common objections to the Bible stems from the morally objectionable material it seems to contain and promote. For example, **read Psalm 137:9.** What does this verse of Scripture appear to be saying?

Now read the rest of Psalm 137. What is this Psalm really about in context?

The Bible is full of examples of God extending mercy and promising justice to people who've been brutally oppressed. (ex., Psalm 34:18, Deut 27:19, Isaiah 61:8, Luke 4:18-19) How should this change the way we understand Psalm 137:9 as part of God's Word?

Some attempt to discredit or diminish the Bible by suggesting that Jesus, and not the Bible, is the Word of God. So, which is it: is the Bible the Word of God, or is it Jesus? Both? Neither? Why? (ref. John 1:1, 14, Matthew 5:17-19, Matthew 24:35)

Most Christians would say they trust Jesus because "the Bible tells me so." While this is perfectly valid, others have come to trust the Bible because *Jesus tells me so*. What is the difference, and why is this so important - especially in our present age of skepticism and cynicism about religion?

How can you apply S.A.L.T. to your conversations with people who struggle to accept and understand the Bible?

News & Events:



All Women Are Invited: Women's Retreat

On Saturday, May 11 (10am to 2:30pm), we're excited to host a women's retreat with Wendy Speake! This retreat is open to women of ALL ages and will include worship, fellowship, a beautiful craft to take home after, and two sessions with Wendy. Register: thestory.church/retreat



Parents Night Out

Take the night off while your kids hang with our StoryKids team! Friday May 17 from 5:30-8:30pm for children ages 3-10 Register for \$15 per child today: thestory.church/pno



Summer Discipleship at The Story

Registration is open for our summer discipleship efforts for all ages, including VBS, student camps, and our adult weekly Bible study for six weeks. Learn more and register today: thestory.church/summer