













## Small Group/ Reflection Notes

	14-09-2025	What <u>IS</u> the Bible?
 Start	<input type="checkbox"/> What do you find harder: to pick up a book or to put it down? <input type="checkbox"/> What, for you, makes for a good book?	
 Discuss	<input type="checkbox"/> What is the Bible? <input type="checkbox"/> Where did the Bible come from? <input type="checkbox"/> <i>"What we know as the Bible is in fact a library of 66 separate 'books' (a mix of historical accounts, legal documents, poetry &amp; song lyrics, letters, prophecies..) written over 1500+ years by 40+ people from 3 Continents drawn from numerous cultures, and languages". Discuss!</i> <input type="checkbox"/> How did the invention of the printing press – 1,500 years after Christ – change who could access/ read the Bible? What understanding could have been lost with the switch from 66 scrolls to one book? Why does this matter? <input type="checkbox"/> Similarly, how are Smartphones/ Internet Apps changing the way we access, and even understand, the Bible today?	
 Read	<b>Luke 4:16-21</b>	 Listen again <a href="http://ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch">ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch</a> <a href="http://ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Talks">ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Talks</a>
 Explore	<input type="checkbox"/> v.16: Why was <i>this</i> town challenging for Jesus? What's your 'hometown' experience as a Christian? How are habits/ customs cultivated? Why is <i>habit/ custom</i> so important when it comes to gathering for worship? (If you are open to 'standing up to read' the Bible in a service, speak to Elaine Gerard!) <input type="checkbox"/> v.17: How do we navigate around the Bible? What are your tips? By handing Jesus the Isaiah scroll, how might they have been testing him? <input type="checkbox"/> v.18-19: Why did Jesus select this section to read, even though it would have taken so long to get to/ find it? (Isaiah scroll was 7.3m long). To what extent do you think Isaiah knew who he was writing about/ predicting? <input type="checkbox"/> v.20-21: When have you read the Bible and sensed God was speaking to you/ about you? What was Jesus claiming? Read John 1:1-2. Who is the Word of God, Jesus or the Bible?	
 Go further	<input type="checkbox"/> Read Isaiah 61:1-2 and compare to Luke 4:18-19. What did Jesus <u>omit</u> ? Why? Who's understanding of 'good news' was better, Isaiah's or Jesus's? <input type="checkbox"/> Both Isaiah 61:1-2 and Luke 4:18-19 are in the Bible; they are both Scripture – similar and yet different. How do you explain this? <input type="checkbox"/> Read John 1:1-2. What or who is the Word of God? <input type="checkbox"/> <i>"The Bible is the Spirit-inspired, unfolding story of God and God's people. Through it, we can trace a growing understanding and revelation of God through successive generations. What begins as an inspired hunch in Genesis, gradually, with each successive generation, becomes ever clearer/ sharper. Then, boom, Jesus, THE Word of God – the image of the invisible</i>	

	God.” To what extent does this help make sense of the 39 books of the Old Testament? If not, what’s your explanation?
 Reflect	<input type="checkbox"/> Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? <input type="checkbox"/> Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why? <input type="checkbox"/> How does your story connect with God’s story?
 Do	<input type="checkbox"/> Memorize Scripture. Start with one verse, then add another...
 Pray	Almighty God, Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. Give me understanding of Your Way, Truth and Life. Help me to live what I read. Amen
 My questions:	

Access Small Group/ Reflection notes from: [ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Notes](https://ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Notes)

If you’re not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out : [ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups](https://ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups)

Can’t see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! [SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk](mailto:SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk)

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