Session 6

Why how I the

and should read Bible

The Bible is the most...

- Popular
- Powerful
- Precious (Psalm 19:10)
- ... book in the world.

"Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every **word** that comes from the mouth of God." (Matthew 4:4).

1. BRINGING REVELATION - GOD HAS SPOKEN

- Bible: collection of books by 40+ authors over 1600 years
- Inspired: God-breathed

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness." (2 Timothy 3:16)

But what about difficulties in the Bible?

- Jesus is the interpretive key
- It's authoritative (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- · Practical wisdom:
 - Guidelines for living
- Guidance for good decisions

2. BUILDING RELATIONSHIP - GOD SPEAKS

The Bible is like a love letter from God:

- To those exploring faith (Romans 10:17, John 20:31)
- To those who are Christians
 - Become like Jesus (2 Corinthians 3:18)
 - Joy and peace in the midst of a storm (Psalm 23:5)
 - Guidance (Psalm 119:105)
 - Health/healing (Proverbs 4:20-22)
 - Defense against spiritual attack (Matthew 4:1–11)
 - Power (Hebrews 4:12)
 - Cleansing (John 15:3)

"Reading the Bible generates life. It produces change. It heals hurts. It builds character. It transforms circumstances. It imparts joy. It overcomes adversity. It defeats temptation. It infuses hope. It releases power. It cleanses the mind."

RICK WARREN

3. HOW CAN WE HEAR GOD SPEAK THROUGH THE BIBLE

 Make a plan Find a time Find a place ("a solitary place," Mark 1:35)
 Find a pattern Ask God to speak: Read a short passage Bible reading notes Bible in One Year app – bibleinoneyear.org
Ask yourself:What does it say to me?What does it mean to me?How does it apply to me?
Respond in prayerPut it into practice (Matthew 7:24)

SESSION 6 WHY AND HOW SHOULD I READ THE BIBLE?

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RECOMMENDED READING Why Trust the Bible? Amy Orr-Ewing 30 Days Nicky Gumbel The Bible (The Message is an acceptable paraphrase) NIV Alpha Bible in One Year Read the daily Bible in One Year commentary by Nicky Gumbel at bibleinoneyear.org or download the app from the App Store.