

Part Two: Bible

If you read through the Bible carefully, you are bound to come to some parts that are troubling. The Bible has often been criticized for being old, out of date, unscientific, sexist and portraying a God that is often anything but loving. How can people read and follow such a book?

Scripture: Hebrew 1:1-4

Bottom Line: Jesus is God's Word to the world.

Discussion Questions

- 1. What is your relationship like with the Bible? Do you feel like you know it well or not very well? What are your favourite parts? Which parts do you find hard to understand? Are there passages or topics that bother you or that you wish weren't there?
- 2. Read Hebrews 1:1-4. What observations do you have of this passage? Is there anything that stands out to you from this reading or from the sermon on Sunday?
- 3. What are some of the ways that the writer says God has spoken in the past? What does it mean that God has now spoken through a Son? What else does this passage say about the Son (Jesus) that helps us understand who God is? How do you think this passage helps us think about how we read the Bible and ask questions about what God is like?
- 4. Read John 5:31-39 and Luke 24:25-27. What do these things tell us about how Jesus saw himself in relationship to the Jewish Scriptures (the Old Testament)? What does that tell us about how we should read the Bible?
- 5. There are many difficult passages in the Bible that depict God in ways that don't look very 'Jesus-like.' (For example, God ordering the extermination of people groups, condoning slavery, participating in violence, etc.) How do you think what we've read helps us to interpret or deal with those kind of passages?
- 6. How can we read the Bible in such a way that we remember that Jesus is the fulfillment of the entire Bible?

Moving Forward

Do you read the Bible regularly? What obstacles hold you back from doing that? What practices might help you go deeper and be more consistent in experiencing Jesus through Bible study?