



## **Part Three // Scott Landry // October 29, 2023**

It happens to many people. You decide to give the Bible a shot. You sit down with a good translation. Then what? How do you get something out of it? When you start to understand it, how do you experience God through it? It might surprise you to discover that the key to experiencing God through the Bible is more than what you can read and understand.

**Scripture:** Genesis 3: 1-6 NLT; Matthew 4:1-11 NLT

**Bottom Line:** A posture of openness to the Bible allows you to experience the book.  
A posture of submission to the Bible allows you to experience God.

### **Getting Started:**

1. If you've read the Bible, what are some approaches to how you read it that have been helpful to you?
2. On a scale of 1-10, how high would you rate your trust in the Bible as a whole?
3. What parts of the Bible challenge you the most? How so?

### **Diving In:**

4. Scott shared a technique for reading a passage of scripture called the "Inductive Approach" (COMA - Context, Observation, Meaning, Application). Pick one of the following passages and try the approach as a group: Luke 7:36-50 or Luke 19:1-10.
5. Read Genesis 3:1-6. How do Adam and Eve move from a place of trusting God to a place of trusting themselves instead? What happens? Where do you see this type of thinking in your own life? How is putting yourself in charge the root of sin?
6. In Matthew 4:1-11 you see Jesus modelling what it means to put ourselves under the authority of scripture (God's word to us). The Western world often has a challenge with the concept of being under authority. Why do you think that is?

7. Scott shared that, “information is about technique, but spiritual formation is about trust.” There’s something about fully trusting the Bible that should mess with us (in a good way) and challenge us. How so? Would you say that you are regularly challenged when you read the Bible? Why or why not?
8. When you read the Bible, how could you be more open to what God might be saying and choose to obey it, rather than seeing it through your own lens or making it say what you want it to say? What part does the Holy Spirit play in helping you with this?

**Moving Forward:**

If you have difficulty trusting the Bible, why not try stepping out in obedience and see what happens? Find a passage of scripture in the New Testament this week, spend time reflecting on it, and have the courage to trust and obey it. See what God might do in your life through this posture of humble submission.

*For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. Hebrews 4:12 NLT*