

## **APRIL 2021 CONNECTION GUIDE**

Icebreaker questions ~ Topics: God, Jesus, and The Bible ~ Scriptures Passage Read ~ Group Discussion Questions

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### **Icebreakers**

- What is your most-used emoji?
- If you could add anyone to Mount Rushmore who would it be; why?
- Have you ever read a book (other than the Bible) or watched a movie that changed your worldview?

### **What the Bible says about who God is?**

**Genesis 1:1 (NIV)** *(For a deeper study, read Genesis 1, 2, and 3)*

*"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."*

**Genesis 1:26 (NIV)**

*'Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."'*

**Exodus 3:14-15 (NIV)**

*God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.' " God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.' " "This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation."*

**Psalms 23:1-6 (NIV)**

*"<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. <sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, <sup>3</sup>he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. <sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. <sup>6</sup>Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."*

**Isaiah 40:28-29 (NIV)**

*"<sup>28</sup>Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. <sup>29</sup>He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak."*

### **What the Bible says about who Jesus is?**

**Colossians 1:15-20 (NLT)**

*"<sup>15</sup>Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, <sup>16</sup>for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see— such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together. <sup>18</sup>Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything. <sup>19</sup>For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, <sup>20</sup>and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross."*

**John 1:1-5, 14 (NIV)**

*"<sup>1</sup>In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He existed in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. <sup>4</sup>The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.... <sup>14</sup>So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son."*

## What the Bible says about “the Bible”?

### **2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)**

*“<sup>16</sup>All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”*

### **Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)**

*“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”*

### **Psalms 119:105 (NIV)**

*“Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.”*

## Can reading and practicing Bible principles help me in my day to day life?

### **Ephesians 6:13-18 (NIV)** (For a deeper study, read Ephesians 6:10-18)

*“<sup>13</sup>Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup>Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup>and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup>And pray in the Spirit on all occasions ...”*

### **Psalms 119:**

*“<sup>9</sup>How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word. <sup>10</sup>I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. <sup>11</sup>I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.”*

### **Joshua 1:8-9**

*“<sup>8</sup>Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. <sup>9</sup>Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”*

## Discussion Questions

- **What is something you can say “I know this about God”?**
- **What do you think it means in Genesis 1:26 when God is described as “us”?**
- **What is something that is a mystery for you about God?**
- **Jesus asked his disciples, “Who do you say I am?” What would you say to Jesus if he asked you the same question?**
- **Is the Bible reliable and helpful in today’s world?**
- **Is the Bible helpful for you? If so, why and/or how?**
- **How can the group pray for you this coming week?**

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## Deeper study and more resources

- What does the Free Methodist Church believe? .... <https://fmcusa.org/webelieve>
- The Holy Trinity: <https://www.christianity.com/god/trinity/god-in-three-persons-a-doctrine-we-barely-understand-11634405.html>

## Questions for the Pastors and Staff?

If you would like contact from one of our pastors or staff, we invite you to reach out to any or all of us.

Shaun McNay: [shaun@qfmc.org](mailto:shaun@qfmc.org) / 509-723-8294

Andrew Royer: [andrew@qfmc.org](mailto:andrew@qfmc.org) / 509-289-0911

Daniel Castillo: [daniel@qfmc.org](mailto:daniel@qfmc.org) / 509-237-1187

Ryan Massey: [ryan@qfmc.org](mailto:ryan@qfmc.org) / 509-794-9077

Chrissy Massey: [chrissy@qfmc.org](mailto:chrissy@qfmc.org) / 509-398-2201

Vonna Harris: [vonna@qfmc.org](mailto:vonna@qfmc.org) / 509-787-4491