

ON SPEAKING TERMS

50 DAYS WITH JESUS – PART 1

START TALKING. WITH AN ICEBREAKER QUESTION:

- What place did the physical Bible have in your house as a child?

START THINKING. ASK QUESTIONS THAT WILL GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- Brainstorm: What do you think you knew about Jesus, accurately or inaccurately, before the age of 12?
- Read the scriptures on the next pages in preparation for the following conversation.

START SHARING. CHOOSE THE QUESTIONS THAT WILL CREATE OPENNESS.

- List each decade of your life and describe your relationship with the Bible in 3 words or less. Example: Teens/far away, 20's/interested, 30's/much closer, etc.
- What has confused you about the Bible in the past, but is now clearer to you? (Example: Jesus dies each time in the gospels was confusing at first)
- What has prevented you from engaging with the Bible in the past?
- Have you ever read all four of the gospels in their entirety? (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)
- As we read through the Gospels over these next 50 days, what are you most looking forward to?
- Describe your practical relationship the past 4 months with the Bible? How do you practically engage?
- If you are someone whose engagement with the Bible has been rather close and constant over the past year, what differences are you noticing from that connection? Obvious difference as well as intangibles. What's different?
- Share your decision concerning reading the four Gospels with the group.

START PRAYING. BE BOLD, AND PRAY WITH POWER.

- Father, I want to know you more. Open my heart, mind, and spirit as I read your Word. Plant deeply inside of me that which will bear fruit that pleases You. Amen.

START DOING. COMMIT TO A STEP AND LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK.

- Uh, this one is easy. Do the reading plan! www.flagchurch.com/jesus

Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV)

²⁴ "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.

²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

Matthew 16:15 (NIV)

¹⁵ "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

John 1:1 (NIV)

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 6:63 (NIV)

⁶³ The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

John 10:27 (NIV)

²⁷ My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

Matthew 24:35 (NIV)

³⁵ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

John 8:31-32 (NIV)

³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.

³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."