

Discussion Questions explanation:

Immerse is designed for groups to encounter large portions of the Bible together for 8 weeks—more like a book club, less like a Bible study. Aim to understand the big story. Read through “The Stories and the Story” (p. 483) to see how the books of the Bible work together to tell God’s story of his creation’s restoration. As you read through Immerse: Messiah, rather than ask, “How do I fit God into my busy life?” begin asking, “How can I join in God’s great plan by living out my part in his story?”

The questions are a bit different from your average Bible study questions. When people read whole books of the Bible, they notice things for the first time. They may have questions they never thought to ask before. They may even come across things that trouble them. These discussion prompts are meant to help readers navigate the text without giving them all the answers. By meeting every week in small groups and discussing what you read in open, honest conversations, you and your community can come together to be transformed through an authentic experience with the Scriptures.

4 (book club style) Questions to get your conversations started:

1. What stood out to you this week?
2. Was there anything confusing or troubling?
3. Did anything make you think differently about God?
4. How might this change the way we live?

If your group is really struggling to open up, here are some additional questions to consider. (The point is not for the group to get through all the questions, but to have open, honest and authentic conversations and experience with God’s word.)

1. How does the book of Acts compare (even parallel the book of Luke? (structure, features, emphasis, themes, etc.)
2. Luke gives the purpose of the book in Acts 1:1-8. What can you learn from this?
3. Acts has also been titled the “Acts of the Apostles” Would you agree or disagree? Explain your reasoning. How does Luke saying that his first book was about ‘all that Jesus began to do and teach’ influence what the title (or emphasis) might be?
4. Jesus tells his followers they are to be his witnesses. Do you think of being a witness as something to “do” or something you are? Explain your reasoning. (identity or performance?)
5. How does the Holy Spirit as ‘a promise from the Father’ affect the way you approach (time with) God?
6. What barriers do you experience as you try to show and share your faith? (Comfort, fear of pain, persecution, or rejection, etc)