

Immerse: Messiah

Discussion Guide

3 ways to get the most out of your experience

1. Use *Immerse: Messiah* instead of your regular chapter-and-verse Bible. This special reader's edition restores the Bible to its natural simplicity and beauty by removing chapter and verse numbers and other historical additions. Letters look like letters, songs look like songs, and the original literary structures are visible in each book.

2. Commit to making this a community experience. 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. 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.

3. 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?”

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?

Alternative Questions that might work well for teens:

1. Put in your own words the central idea of what you read.
2. What makes sense and what doesn't make sense?
3. What is one thing you can relate to from this reading?
4. If this passage was to examine your own life, what would it point out in you?
5. How can you share this idea with someone you care about?

less-churchy questions:

1. What was surprising for you?
2. What did you read that resonated with you?
3. What was a challenge for you?
4. What would you like more information on?
5. Do you sense God is speaking to you through this passage and if so what is he saying?
6. What are Jesus' expectations of his followers?