

**Session 1: Why Christians Read Their Bible Poorly  
(and Why that is a Tragedy and a Travesty)  
April 5, 2009**

1. Why Christians Read their Bible \_\_\_\_\_

a. What do I mean by \_\_\_\_\_?

i. Problems with \_\_\_\_\_:

BIG IDEA: We must first hear what a \_\_\_\_\_,  
before we hear what a text \_\_\_\_\_.

ii. Problems with Personal \_\_\_\_\_

b. Top 10 Reason for Poor Bible Reading

i. \_\_\_\_\_ has made us stupid.

ii. \_\_\_\_\_-

iii. Information \_\_\_\_\_:

iv. Cultural \_\_\_\_\_:

v. Give me something that \_\_\_\_\_.

vi. \_\_\_\_\_breeds contempt:

vii. \_\_\_\_\_reading habits

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Syndrome:

2. \_\_\_\_\_

viii. Poor understanding of the Bible as \_\_\_\_\_

ix. Nobody reads the \_\_\_\_\_.

x. Poor \_\_\_\_\_

2. Why do so many Christians \_\_\_\_\_?

3. Why assume so many people who have no regard for the Word of God are \_\_\_\_\_?

4. Why this is a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_

a. A Tragedy because of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible

i. \_\_\_\_\_

ii. \_\_\_\_\_

iii. \_\_\_\_\_

iv. \_\_\_\_\_

b. A Tragedy because of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible:

i. The Biblical Storyline: The Bible is a drama in four movements.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

ii. The Bible is not a version of the world or a way to look at the world, it is the \_\_\_\_\_.

From ESV Study Bible – “It is a marvel how personally the Bible applies. The words pointedly address the concerns of long-ago people in faraway places, facing specific problems, many of which no longer exist. They had no difficulty seeing the application. Much of what they read was personal application to actual situations they were facing. But nothing in the Bible was written directly to you or specifically about what you face. We are reading someone else's mail. Yet the Bible repeatedly affirms that these words are also written for us: “Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction” (Rom. 15:4; cf. Deut. 29:29; 1 Cor. 10:11; 2 Tim. 3:15–17). Application today discovers ways in which the Spirit reapplies Scripture in a timely fashion.

Furthermore, the Bible is primarily about God, not you. The essential subject matter is the triune Redeemer Lord, culminating in Jesus Christ. When Jesus “opened their minds to understand the Scriptures” (Luke 24:45), he showed how everything written—creation, promises, commands, history, sacrificial system, psalms, proverbs—reveals him. We are reading someone else's biography. Yet that very story demonstrates how he includes us within his story. Jesus is the Word of God applied, all-wisdom embodied. As his disciples, we learn to similarly apply the Bible, growing up into his image. Application today experiences how the Spirit “rescripts” our lives by teaching us who God is and what he is doing.”

iii. Only as I understand this message will I be able to rightly answer the “\_\_\_\_\_” of life.

c. Our generation has \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ access to the Scripture then any generation in the history of the world and yet we know **less** of the Bible today than did pre-literate men and women.

5. Why you don't need to stay where you are

a. God has written this book in such a way that His message to us is “\_\_\_\_\_”. Not that the message doesn't come out without some work, but God isn't hiding his message from us.

b. God wants you to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ this Book.