

## Bible discovery session summaries and readings

For each session, read as much as you like ahead of time—whether one chapter or many!

Session/Date	Topic	Short Reading	Long Reading
1 – March 9	<b>CREATION and THE MEANING OF LIFE</b>	Genesis 1-3	Genesis 1-3
	The opening stories of the Bible stand as important theological reflections on the calling of humans and casts a vision of the originally intended harmonious relationship between humans, God, and the rest of creation, and the ways in which that relationship (and thus all our relationships) become damaged and distorted.		
2 – March 16	<b>GOD’S CHOSEN PEOPLE: THE STORY OF THE PATRIARCHS and MATRIARCHS</b>	Genesis 12:1-9, 15:1-18:15, 21:1-22:19, 25:19-34, 27:1-45	Genesis 12-50
	The stories of God choosing and making covenant with the early ancestors of Israel—Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob and his wives and sons—are often surprising. These people are less simple “heroes of the faith” and more complex people with moments of failure as well as faith, yet God remains faithful.		
3 – March 23	<b>CALLED TO FREEDOM: THE EXODUS</b>	Exodus 1-15 & 19-20	Exodus 1-20, 24, 32-34
	When God’s people, the descendants of Jacob (aka, Israel), become enslaved, God’s faithfulness is shown and God’s nature as a deliverer from oppression comes to the fore. God works through the leadership of Moses to lead God’s people to freedom and gives the law to guide their relationships with one another.		
4 – March 30	<b>ISRAEL: NATIONHOOD and EXILE</b>	1 Samuel 15-20 2 Samuel 11-15	Joshua 1-7 Judges 2-8 1 Samuel 1-8 and 15-20 2 Samuel 11-15 1 Kings 1-11
	Becoming a kingdom in the “promised land”—and then losing it through disobedience—is one of the key narratives of God’s people, Israel, and one fraught with moral and spiritual complexity. Join us as we look at how they wrestle with what it means to be God’s people in the world.		
5 – April 6	<b>THE STORIES OF JESUS</b>	Matthew 5-7, 13, and 23-28; John 1-4 and 13-21	Gospels of Matthew and John
	Even for life-long Christians, the stories of Jesus in the different Gospels contain surprises and revelations. Jesus is not only a loving savior but a challenging prophet and enigmatic teacher. Explore the stories of his life and teaching with us!		
6 – April 13	<b>STORIES OF JESUS’ FIRST FOLLOWERS</b>	Acts 1-11 and 19-24	Book of Acts
	The work that God began in Jesus continues in his followers, as they go into the world and encounter both challenges and acceptance. In their stories we can find wisdom and inspiration for our own faithful following in the world.		
April 20 – May 4	<b>Break—Easter, Wayfinders Class, and New Member Sunday Reception</b>		
7 – May 11	<b>THE LETTERS OF PAUL</b>	Philippians and Ephesians	Romans and 1 Corinthians
	Aside from Jesus himself, no other person has had a greater influence on Christian belief than the Apostle Paul, yet his letters can be both complex and even off-putting. Come and dig into his thought and the “whys” of how he writes to the communities he founds and shepherds.		
8 – May 18	<b>REVELATION: THE CULMINATION OF ALL THINGS</b>	Revelation 1-7 and 19-22	Book of Revelation
	No book of the Bible has been simultaneously so influential and so avoided! Come and find out why you don’t have to be an end-times nut to be inspired by the revelation of Jesus in the last book of the Bible.		

