

# Adult Bible Discovery-August 23, 2020

## For Starters:

*Why do you think context matters when reading scripture?*

Today's study will be using a form of reading, and pondering the text using questions that Pastor Kyle Blake introduced in the message in online worship last week. If you have not seen his message you can go to this link: <https://vimeo.com/445347068>

*Each time we read the Bible we can come to it, depending on the Holy Spirit to teach us and shape us. When we come to the Bible, the Spirit is teaching and reminding us of the gospel. Here are four simple questions that have helped people see, understand, and remember the gospel as we read the Bible.*

## Read Romans 11

### **1. Who is God? What does the text say about the character and nature of God?**

*The Bible is God's story so we begin by asking how His character and nature are revealed in what we're reading. Look for specific references to His attributes: holy, eternal, all-powerful, all-knowing, unchanging, etc.*

### **2. What Has He Done? What does the text say about the work of God?**

*God's work throughout all of human history is diverse and magnificent, and the person and work of Jesus is revealed on every page of the Bible. He is the hero and main character. Look for references to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, either through foreshadowing, prophecy, or through the New Testament story of Jesus' earthly life and the establishment of His church.*

**3. Who Are We in Light of That Truth? What does the text say about our identity?** *God has always been working to save "a people for His own possession" (1 Peter 2:9). Throughout the Bible, not the things that are true about God's people.*

**4. How Do We Live in Light of That Truth? How does this change the way we live?** *Rightly motivated, gospel-centered action flows out of an understanding of who God is, what He's done, and who we are in light of God's character and work. Now take action! Jesus warns against being merely hearers of His Word but not doers.*

The four questions come from *Growing in Christ Together* by Justin Kuravackal, Abe Meysenburg, Jeff Vanderstelt, and Brad Watson. © 2018 by Saturate Publishing

After you have pondered the text using the above questions you can use the following questions each day this week to encounter God at work in and through His Word, His Creation and in you, His child!

## **QUESTIONS FOR DAILY REFLECTION**

**1. Where did I experience God's presence today?** *Where did I see Him working? Look back on the events of the day in the company of the Holy Spirit. The day may seem confusing to you—a blur, a jumble, a muddle. Ask God to bring clarity and understanding.*

**2. What happened today that brought me joy?** *What am I grateful for? Walk through your day in the presence of God and note its joys and delights. Focus on the day's highlights and gifts. Pay attention to small things. God is in the details.*

**3. What emotions did I experience today?** *Where was I at my best? My worst? Reflect on the feelings you experienced during the day. What is God saying through these feelings? God will most likely show you some ways that you fell short. Make note of these sins and faults. But look deeply for other implications. Does a feeling of frustration perhaps mean that God wants you consider a new direction in some area of your work? Are you concerned about a friend? Perhaps you should reach out to him/her in some way.*

**4. What things or people, from today, do I want to lift to God now?** *What do I need to give Him praise for? What do I need to ask for His forgiveness for? Ask the Holy Spirit to direct you to something during the day that God thinks is particularly important. Look at it. Pray about it—whether intercession, praise, repentance, or gratitude.*

**5. With the guidance of the Spirit, what is one way I can improve tomorrow?** *Seek God's guidance for tomorrow. Ask him for help and understanding. Pray for hope.*