

How do we read the Bible - and know we're reading it rightly?



BIG IDEA

If you take the Bible out of context, you can make it say whatever you want. But if you leave it in context, it might just change you.



ICE BREAKER

Refrigerator theology that Shane speaks on throughout the message, what verse did you find the most interesting leaving it in its original context?



MAIN POINTS

Many people use Bible verses out of context to support their own ideas, emotions, or agendas. But when Scripture is taken out of context, it can lead to confusion and bad theology.

If you take the Bible out of context, you can make it say whatever you want. But if you leave it in context, it might just change you.

The goal of Bible study is not just information—it is transformation.

God's Word was given so that we would encounter Him and become more like Jesus.

Four Keys to Reading the Bible Well:

1. Remember the Goal: Transformation We don't read the Bible to justify ourselves or find quick inspiration. We read it so God can shape us.

2. Remember the Bible Was Written to Real People Every passage was written by someone, to someone, during a real time in history, facing real struggles.

3. Read the Verses Before and After Single verses can be misunderstood when isolated. Read the surrounding passage to understand the full meaning.

4. Ask What It Reveals About God The main purpose of Scripture is to reveal who God is and what He is inviting us to do.

The more we study the Bible, the more we discover a God who is patient, merciful, loving, and unlike us.



DISCUSS

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message?
2. Why do you think people often take Bible verses out of context?
3. Have you ever misunderstood a Bible verse until learning the full context?
4. Why is transformation a better goal than simply gaining knowledge?
5. If you don't know who He is, you won't know who you are? thoughts?
6. What is one area of your life where God may want to shape you through His Word right now?



NEXT STEP

Take one step this week based on where you are:

If you read casually → Spend time reading a full chapter instead of one verse.

If you want to grow → Ask what the text reveals about God before asking what it means for you.

If you feel distant from God → Invite Him to use His Word to heal and transform you.

Ask yourself:

Am I reading the Bible to confirm what I want—or to become who God wants me to be?
“If you read the Bible in context and surrender to its message don’t be surprised when you begin to look like the Risen King” - Shane Wood



SCRIPTURE

- Jeremiah 29:11
- Ephesians 2:8-10
- 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- Romans 12:2
- Hebrews 4:12



NEXT WEEK
SNEAK PEAK

Join us next week as we welcome back Pastor Shan and continue the series **What’s the Deal With...** and tackle another important question of faith.

Questions or Feedback? Email Groups@CentralAZ.com