

Bibling Together

Most of us are familiar with the idea of Bible reading, or Bible study, by ourselves. Maybe we prioritise having some time with God each day, reading and praying. That is important, but does the Bible itself also encourage Bible engagement with others?

1. Consider each of these passages. What happened? Is there anything you notice? What was the purpose, or the value, of what happened?
 - Exodus 24:3-8 – Moses at Mt Sinai
 - Deuteronomy 6:1-3 (which refers back to Chapter 5)
 - Deuteronomy 6:4-9 – Moses spoke to the people, but parents were to do the same with their children.
 - Exodus 31:9-13 – every 7 years...
 - Joshua 8:34-35 – Joshua at Mt Ebal
 - 2 Kings 22:8-11; 23:1-3 – the Book of the Law found in the Temple
 - Nehemiah 8 – Ezra reads to those who had returned from exile
 - Luke 4:16-1 – Jesus read Isaiah in the synagogue
 - Acts 15:21; 13:15 – the Law was read each Sabbath in the synagogue
 - Colossians 4:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:27 – Paul's letters were to be read to churches
 - 1 Timothy 4:13 – the public reading of scripture
2. Reflecting on those passages, do you think God says there is something important about reading, discussing, teaching the Bible within community? What is the value in it?
3. From your own experience what has been good, and what has been not so good, about being in a small group or some other context where you engage with the Bible with others?
4. Can you think of other ways, perhaps quite creative ways, of engaging with the Bible with others?
 - Is there something you would like to do (either for your own benefit, or theirs, or both)? What is it and what would it take for you to actually do it?
5. Spend time talking to God about these things.