

The Good Book: Bias, Certainty, & Unlearning
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Reflection & Discussion Questions

The Bible can be filled with tension

When humans use it irresponsibly, it can hurt us and others.

- *What does it mean to read the Bible responsibly?
- *What tensions have you felt with the Bible?

The nature of belief is really tricky

Our beliefs can be informed by many things.

- *What things are our beliefs informed by?
- *How do we honestly acknowledge these aspects?
- *How do these factors impact our beliefs around the Bible and how we think we should use it?

Our intuition has two sides – the Holy Spirit working in us and our own ego

Our ego can easily masquerade as reasoning or feel like our identity.

- *How can we tell the difference between the two sides? How can we begin to understand which is driving as we engage with the Scriptures?
- *How have you seen either of these sides come into play in your beliefs about the Bible?

Reading and understanding our Bibles well is not just about learning things

We also have a great need to UNLEARN some things.

Read and discuss Hebrews 4:12-13 (NIV)

¹² For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. ¹³ Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

- *Would you say you are ready to 'unlearn' when you read the Bible? What keeps us from that?
- *What does this passage indicate we will feel when we are in the Scriptures? Tell about how you may have experienced this.
- *How do we develop tolerance to stay with tension, struggle and doubt?

The depth of the Bible is in the transformation of lives

We rob the Bible of its intention when we skirt the hard inner work.

- *Do you feel like your time with the Bible is transforming? If not, is the Spirit saying something to you about where you are fleeing from this inner work?
- *What are you sensing about your own perspective, bias or need for certainty in your practice of engaging with the Bible?