



Discussion Guide for “How to Read the Gospels”

How the Bible Works Week 2

The Gospels are ancient biographies. Their goal is to lead us to imitate Jesus' life. So how do we read the Gospels such that we focus not just on Jesus' death, but his life? How can we learn to imitate Jesus?

Scriptures for Further Reading

[Mark 1:1](#)

[Luke 1:1-4](#)

[John 20:20-21](#)

[2 Timothy 3:15-17](#)

Passage for Sacred Reading:

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. You can find a [step-by-step guide here](#). The passage for this week's sacred reading is [Luke 4:14-30](#).

Questions for Discussion

1. When you think of the Gospels, what most often comes to mind?
2. What was the goal of ancient biographies? How is this different from modern biographies?
3. What does the word 'gospel' mean? How does this inform the purpose of the Gospels?
4. Do you focus more on Jesus' life or death? Why?
5. What does it mean to read the Gospels as stories? How does that impact your interpretation?