

# Close Encounters Of the Christ kind

HOW AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS DRAWS US CLOSER TO GOD



Argyle Community Church Autumn 2019 Sermon Series



# An encounter with the Jewish Leaders

## John 5:39–40

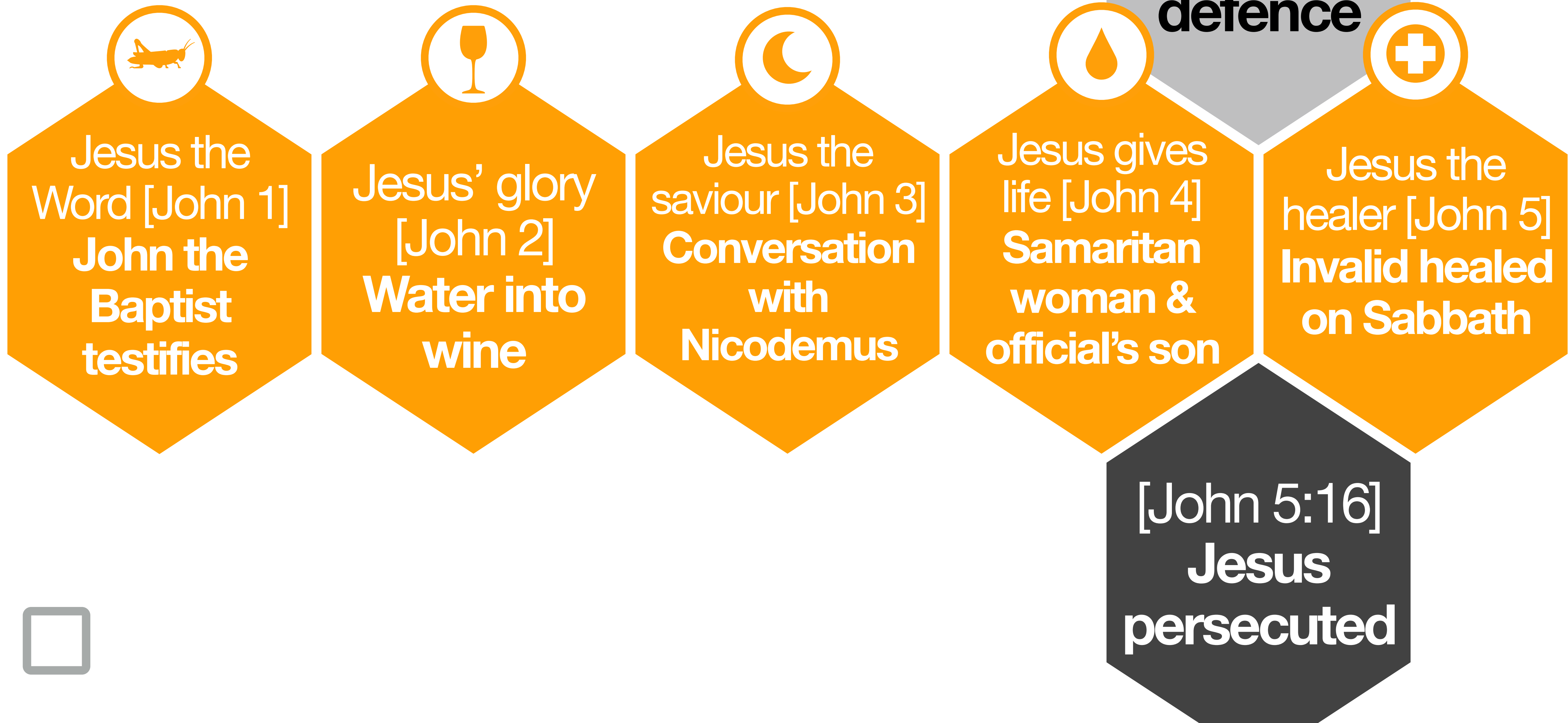
ACC AUTUMN SERMON SERIES 2019

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE CHRIST KIND





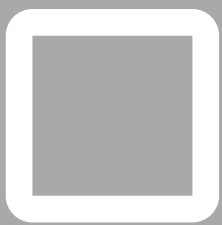
# Context of v39 Identity





# Shock of v39-40

They study scriptures diligently  
but totally miss the point



# John 5:39–40

**You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.**

**MISSING THE  
POINT**

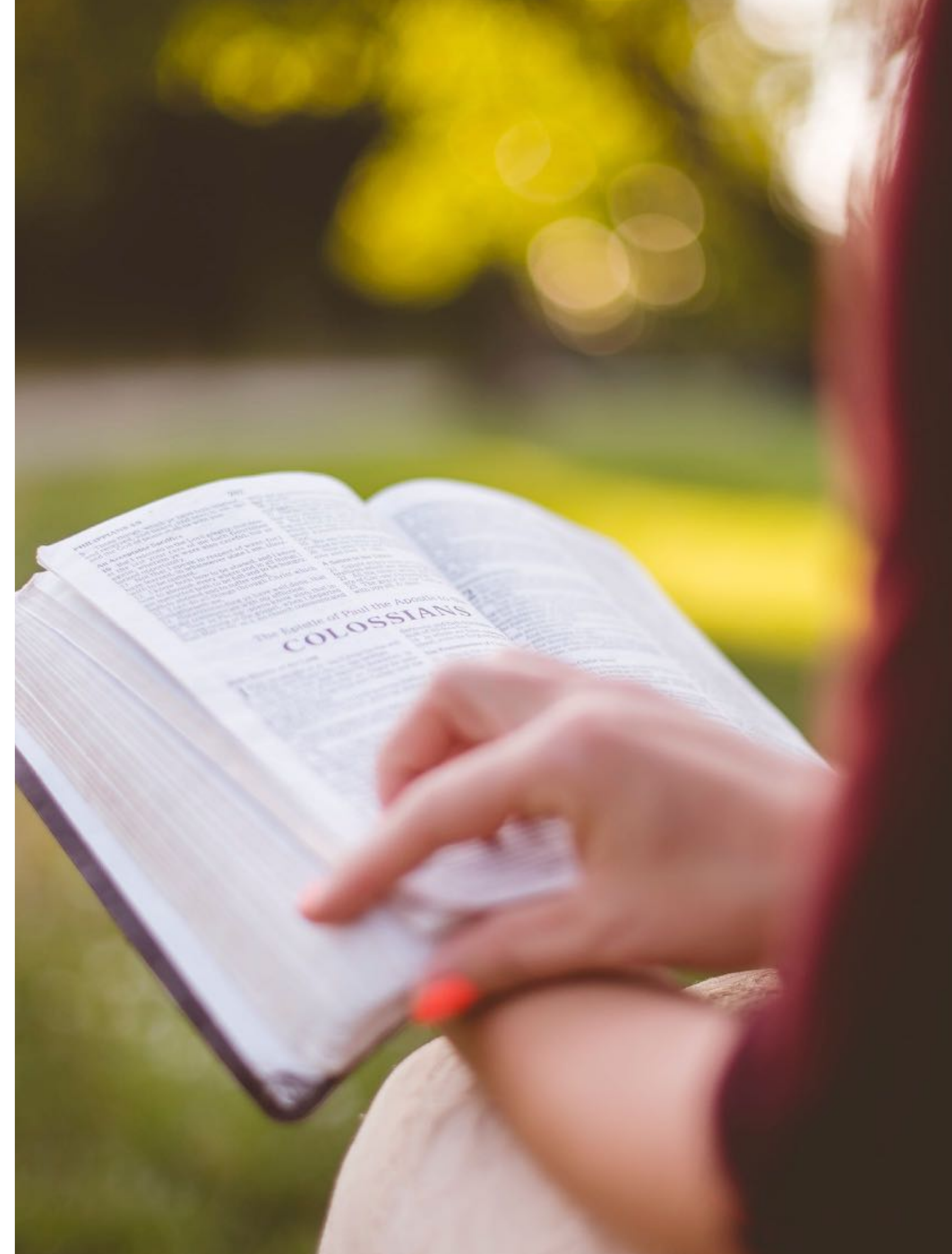




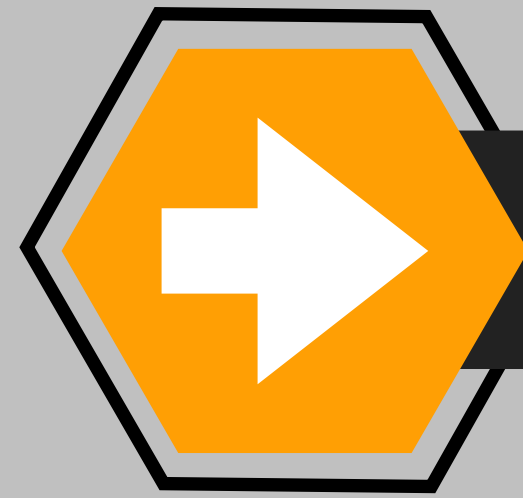
HOW TO READ THE BIBLE RIGHT

# Don't miss the main point!

**(the main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing)**







# THE BIBLE IS ABOUT JESUS

**“THESE ARE THE VERY SCRIPTURES THAT TESTIFY ABOUT ME.” v39b**

**“You have your heads in your Bibles constantly because you think you’ll find eternal life there. But you miss the forest for the trees. These Scriptures are all about me!” The Message**

**OT Scripture testifies to Christ in 4 ways**

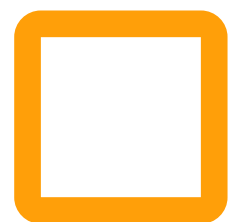
- Predictive Prophecy
- Revelatory Event
- Anticipatory Statute
- Type





# He's everywhere!

**Satan crusher/Angel of the Lord/Commander of the Lord's army/Fiery Furnace/Wrestling with Jacob/The prophet who is greater than Moses, the priest who is greater than Aaron, and the king who is greater than David/Saviour/Suffering Servant/Son of Man/The true & better Job—the truly innocent sufferer who then intercedes for and saves his stupid friends/The true & better Esther, who didn't just risk losing an earthly palace but lost the ultimate heavenly one, who didn't just risk his life but gave his life—to save his people/The true & better Jonah who was cast out into the storm so we could be brought in/etc.**





**If we  
miss  
Him  
we'll  
miss**

**Acceptance - fully accepted by the Most High!**

**His righteousness - I don't have to earn it!**

**His love - I'm not hidden, hopeless, forgotten**

**Freedom - no longer a slave to law or desires**

**His wisdom - It's what I need to flourish**

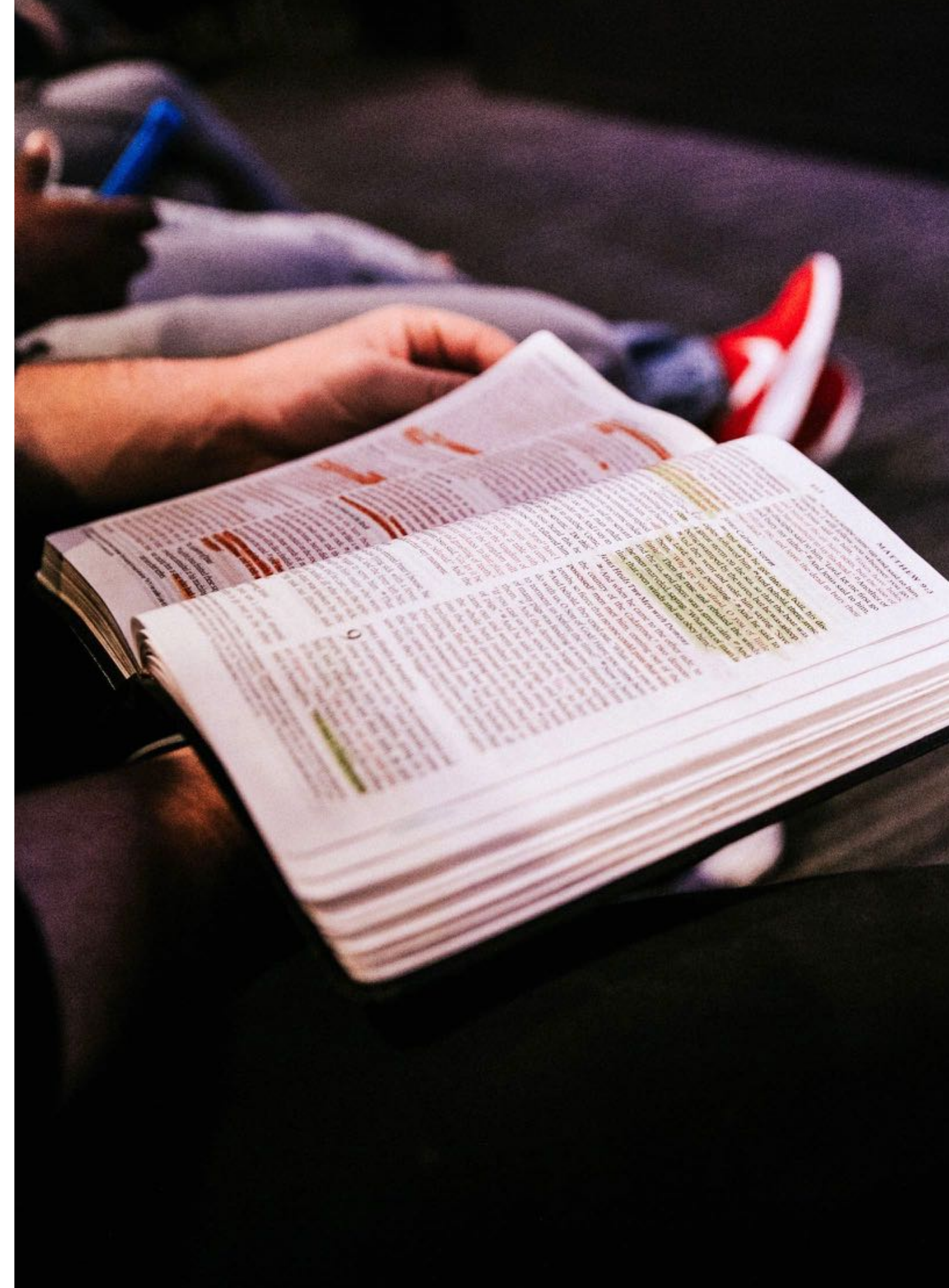
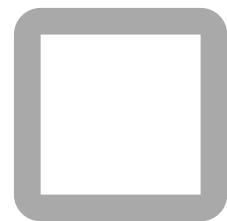
**Joy - He paid off my debts with his blood!**



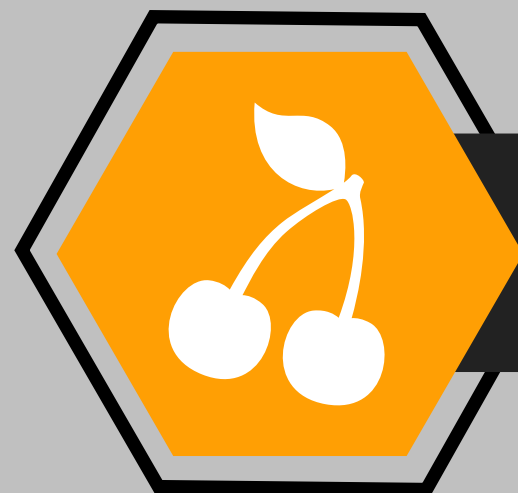


## READING THE BIBLE RIGHT

So how can we prevent ourselves missing the main thing?







## DON'T CHERRY PICK

**DON'T ONLY READ THE 'EASY' BITS OR THE 'NICE' PARTS.**

- [www.navigators.org/resource/bible-reading-plans/](http://www.navigators.org/resource/bible-reading-plans/)
- [www.bibleinoneyear.org](http://www.bibleinoneyear.org)
- [www.godsbigpicture.co.uk](http://www.godsbigpicture.co.uk)







# USE GOOD RESOURCES

- ESV or NIV Study Bible
- Study Guides on table in lobby
- Join a LifeGroup







# ASK THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

**ONE TO ONE BIBLE READING BY  
DAVID HELM**

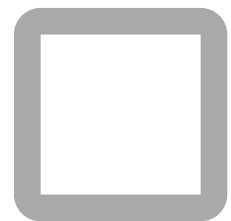
**As I read God's word each day  
I will ask myself three questions  
What does it say?  
What does it mean?  
What is God saying to me?  
I will ask God's Holy Spirit  
Who lives in my heart  
To show me the answers clearly  
So I'll know God's message to  
me**





READING THE BIBLE RIGHT

How did they  
manage to miss  
the main thing?





# John 5:39–44

**39 You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life.**

**These are the very Scriptures that testify about me,**

**40 yet you refuse to come to me to have life.**

**41 'I do not accept glory from human beings,**

**42 but I know you. I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts.**

**43 I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him.**

**44 How can you believe since you accept glory from one another but do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?**

**THEIR BIG  
PROBLEM:  
THEIR HEARTS**







## HEART CHECK UP

**Why do I read/not read the Bible?  
Has my heart become...**

- **SMUG & UNLOVING?**
- **PROUD & INDEPENDENT?**
- **LEGALISTIC & COMPETITIVE?**
- **HARD & CALCIFIED?**







# How will you get Eternal Life

