

Why the Bible Deserves Serious Consideration

A Guided Reflection Worksheet for Seekers and Believers

Focus Truth

The Bible deserves serious consideration because it can be examined, tells the truth about humanity, confronts religious power, and centers on the Creator moving toward us.

Before You Begin

This worksheet will not answer every question about the Bible. It will help you reflect on why the Bible deserves more than a quick dismissal and identify what you want to examine next. Move slowly. You do not have to settle every question at once.

① Examine What Can Be Investigated

The Bible places its message within people, places, rulers, communities, journeys, conflicts, and letters. Its claims enter history and give readers something public to investigate.

Why is a public, written message easier to examine than one person's private spiritual claim?

What part of the Bible's history would you most want to investigate?

What kind of evidence would help you take a biblical claim more seriously?

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① Examine What Can Be Investigated

Honest examination does not require blind acceptance. It also does not begin by deciding that nothing could change your mind. It asks careful questions and remains willing to follow the evidence.

What question about manuscripts, translation, history, archaeology, or authorship would you like to explore first?

What is the difference between examining the Bible seriously and accepting it carelessly?

What is the difference between examining the Bible seriously and dismissing it before looking at the evidence?

Finish the sentence: A fair examination of the Bible would require me to...

Name one attitude, question, source, or next step.

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② Notice What the Bible Refuses to Hide

The Bible does not present its leaders as flawless heroes. It records fear, deception, anger, abuse of power, denial, division, and failure. Kings, priests, prophets, disciples, and churches are all placed beneath the authority of the text.

People the Bible Does Not Flatter

- Abraham believes God, but also acts out of fear.
- Moses leads faithfully, but also becomes angry.
- David shows courage, but later abuses his position.
- Peter follows Jesus, but later denies knowing Him.
- Churches are corrected for pride, division, prejudice, and false teaching.

Why is it significant that the Bible records the failures of its own leaders and heroes?

What does this honesty suggest about whether the message exists mainly to protect religious power?

Where do you see both human dignity and human brokenness in the world around you?

Finish the sentence: The Bible's description of humanity feels honest because...

Consider both our capacity for goodness and our tendency toward selfishness.

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③ Follow the Bible's Connected Story

The Bible contains law, poetry, wisdom, history, prophecy, biography, letters, and visions. The voices are different, but they contribute to one unfolding story about creation, human rebellion, promise, rescue, and restoration.

Trace the Story

- Creation: Humanity is made with dignity and purpose.
- Rebellion: Something has gone deeply wrong within us and our world.
- Promise: The Creator continues to call, warn, guide, and promise rescue.
- Rescue: The story reaches its center in Jesus.
- Restoration: The Bible points toward renewed people and a renewed creation.

Which part of this connected story stands out to you most, and why?

Why does unity across different writers and kinds of literature deserve closer attention?

How is a connected story different from a collection of unrelated religious sayings?

What question would you ask to test whether the Bible's central story is truly coherent?

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④ Consider the Creator Who Comes Near

The Bible gives more than rules. Its central movement is not merely humanity reaching upward. It presents the Creator calling, warning, promising, forgiving, and ultimately coming near through Jesus.

What is the difference between receiving instructions from a distant Creator and being told that the Creator has come near?

Why might human brokenness require more than education, effort, or religious discipline?

What would you need to examine about Jesus before taking the Bible's central claim seriously?

My next question about the Bible is...

Name the issue you most want to examine rather than avoiding it.

One-Sentence Takeaway

The Bible deserves serious consideration because it is open to examination, honest about humanity, able to confront religious power, united in its central story, and centered on the Creator moving toward us.

Closing Prayer

Creator, give me wisdom and humility as I examine the Bible. Keep me from accepting its claims carelessly, but also keep me from dismissing them without serious thought. Help me recognize truth, face honest questions, and follow the evidence wherever it leads. If You have made Yourself known through these words, give me the courage to listen and respond. Amen.

Continue the Journey

Keep examining honestly, keep seeking God, and keep following the truth

You do not have to stop here.

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