

January 16-17, 2021

Title: Engage the Story of God, Pt. 2: Engaging the Author of His Story

Big Idea: We Engage with God through the Bible & Prayer, Confession & Repentance and Faith & Obedience.

What in the message stood out to you?

What comes to mind when you think of engaging with God?

Read James 4:8 and Jeremiah 29:12-14. What do these verses suggest about engaging with God?

1. Engaging with God through the Bible & Prayer.

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. What does this passage say about the Bible? What has been your experience of these things?

Read Ephesians 3:17-19. What does Paul pray for us in this passage? How does God use the Bible in answering this prayer?

Read Psalm 145:18-19 about prayer. What does it mean to engage with God in truth? What does this suggest about the role of the Bible in prayer? What is the promised outcome of prayer in this passage? What have been some of your own experiences of this?

2. Engaging with God through Confession & Repentance.

Read 1 John 1:8-9. Why do we sometimes resist confessing our sins? Why should we engage with God in this way?

Read Psalm 32:1-5. What is the physical and emotional result of engaging with God through confession & repentance?

Read Psalm 139:23-24. Take a few minutes to pray this prayer before the Lord and ask Him to reveal things you need to confess. Confess them before Him and receive His forgiveness. What are some steps you will take to turn away from this sin in your life? If you are comfortable doing so, share your confession and repentance with your group.

3. Engaging with God through Faith & Obedience.

Read James 2:14-26. What is the relationship between faith and obedience (i.e. "works")?

Read 2 Peter 1:4. How does giving us His promises lead to our escape from sinful desire?

What are some of your favorite promises that produce obedience to God in your life?

### Oneness & Witness Takeaways:

- Will you commit to engaging with God by reading the Bible every day this year using a Bible reading plan? A good plan to read the Bible in a year is the Discipleship Journal “Book-at-a-time” Reading Plan (you can Google it or find it on the Bible app).
- Will you commit to answering God in prayer every time you read the Bible?
- Will you commit to a daily time of confession & repentance with God?
- Will you commit to memorizing Bible promises to help you fight against sin & disobedience in your life? The Fighter Verses app is a good resource to help with this.