

SAMPLE ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS

These questions are a starting point for your DNA.
Develop your own over time!

- × How has your anger or fear or anxiety or addiction shown up this week? How does that reveal what you're trusting in besides God?
- × How have you wasted time?
- × How have you felt yourself resisting obeying God this week: in your mission to the lost? In your sacrificial love for community?
- × In light of God's love toward you, do you need to reconcile with somebody? Are you subconsciously holding a grudge?
- × How have you battled sexual or intimacy temptation and how are you preparing to deal with it next week?
- × How has the Holy Spirit been testing and growing you this week? Did you respond in faith or grumbling?
- × Is anything (school, work, technology, etc.) isolating you from important relationships?

REAP BIBLE STUDY METHOD

READ

Open your Bible and ask the Holy Spirit to teach, correct, and train you (2 Timothy 3:16). As you're reading, ask yourself these questions:

- What is happening in this passage?
- Who's speaking, who's the audience, what's the situation?
- Summarize what's going on in this passage in your own words

EXAMINE

Spend some time reflecting. Ask yourself these questions, and write down your thoughts:

- What things are emphasized, repeated, related?
- What do you see about God and about His character? What is God doing in the his passage?
- What do you see about man?
- How do you think the original author wants his audience to respond to this passage?

APPLY

After examining the passage apply the text to your own life. Ask yourself these questions:

- How do I need to repent? What truths do I need to believe? What false beliefs must I turn from?
- What can I do – empowered by the Holy Spirit – today to apply this passage?

PRAY

Pray through the passage and your application, asking God to change your heart and to change your life, based on the time you've spent in God's Word

After you finish, share what God taught you with at least one person—your roommate, your spouse, your kids, or your coworkers. Don't keep what God taught you to yourself.

THE 4 QUESTIONS

1. WHO IS GOD?

What does the text say about the character and nature of God? The Bible is God's story – Father, Son, Spirit- so we begin by asking about how His character and nature are revealed in what we're reading. The story is about Him! Look for specific references to his attributes: holy, eternal, all-powerful, all-knowing, ever present, unchanging, compassionate, gracious, patient, loving, kind, good, gentle, etc. In narrative portions, look for implied references to his attributes. What does the story reveal about his character and nature as Father, Son, and Spirit?

2. WHAT HAS HE DONE?

What does the text say about the work of God? God's work throughout all of human history is diverse and magnificent. All of it is worth proclaiming! However, the person and work of Jesus is revealed on every page of the Bible (Luke 24:27). He is the hero and the main character. The Spirit does not want us to miss Jesus! Look for references to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, either through foreshadowing (saving Noah in the flood, redeeming Israel from slavery in Egypt, King David as a man after God's own heart), through prophecy (Psalm 22, Isaiah 53), or through the New Testament story of Jesus' earthly life and the establishment of his church. This ensures a gospel-centered focus.

3. WHO ARE WE IN LIGHT OF THAT?

What does the text say about our identity? God has always been working to save "a people for his own possession." (1 Peter 2:9) Throughout the Bible, note the things that are true of God's people. This adds depth and richness to our understanding of who we are as New Covenant believers. For example, the Levitical priests were anointed and set apart for special service to God. Now, we are all anointed with God's Spirit (2 Cor. 1:21-22), and, because of Jesus, are all a part of God's "royal priesthood," set apart for special service to God.

4. HOW DO WE LIVE?

In light of all of this, how does it change the way we live? When reading the Bible, we almost always start with the question, "How does this apply to my life?" But rightly motivated, gospel-centered action flows out of an understanding of who God is, what he's done, and who we are in light of God's character and work. Rather than starting with this question, end with it. And then, take action! Jesus warns against being merely a hearer of his word but not a doer (Mt. 7:24-27). The gospel motivates and empowers us to live in an entirely new way.

DNA GUIDE / DNA groups consist of ideally 3 believers of the same sex who meet weekly for the purpose of spiritual growth and accountability. Each should come ready to discuss the following...

DISCOVER / HEAR & OBEY

Each person shares what they have discovered and heard from God in His word

Come prepared to share a journal of what you learned as you've read scripture the past week. Then share *specifically* how you can obey what you have learned from the bible in the coming week.

If you're not sure how you can obey what you've read ask the other members help think through it with you

NURTURE / REPENT & BELIEVE

Each person spends time repenting of their sin and believing the gospel

Share with one another how you have sinned against God this past week. The accountability questions below are a helpful tool and will give you some questions to consider. Be specific, and also share your heart motivations behind the sin.

After sin has been confessed, spend time speaking out loud to yourself and to one another the good news of Jesus' work for us. Hearing the gospel spoken out loud enables us to believe the gospel is good news for us!

ACT / CONSIDER & PRAY

Each person shares opportunities they have to share the gospel in the coming week

Talk about how your relationship and spiritual conversations have gone with your non believing friends. Share how you plan to weave this person into your community. Then pray for them by name for God to save them.