

## “Frank Ruins Everything” | Exploring the way we understand the Bible

**GETTING STARTED:** This week we’re talking a lot about the Bible! Describe your first (or current) Bible. What was/is it like? When did you acquire it? Where is it now?

### EXPLORE THE TOPIC

1. How do people seek information in 2018? If you wanted to know “Who shot JR,” or “What color is a giraffe’s tongue,” what would you do? How has the way we seek information changed over time?

2. How is studying scripture different than seeking answers to other sorts of inquiries?

3. Frank mentioned that “the Bible does not contain answers to all of life’s questions.” What questions might the Bible not answer?

4. What tools have you used in studying scripture? How did you select it? When is it most helpful? Or, if you have never sought out any study tools, what hesitations or questions have you had?

5. Why is it important to remember the *historical context* when reading passages like Luke 19:41-44? How might we incorrectly connect past events with current events?

6. Frank mentioned the importance of remembering that “the Bible is written for us, but not to us.” How should that truth shape the way we interact with the Bible? What can happen if we don’t heed that warning?

7. What experience do you have with reading plans that cover the entire Bible (365 days, 90 days, etc.) or

a specific book (John in 30 days)? What do plans like that help accomplish in the life of a Christ-follower?

8. Why is it important to move beyond Bible *reading* and engage with Bible *study*?

9. Why is it important to examine the *literary context* of single verses like Jeremiah 29:11 (in context of Jeremiah 29:10-14)? What is the danger in focusing too narrowly on a single verse?

10. How are verses like Romans 8:28 often misunderstood or misrepresented? How does a *collective worldview* (rather than a *personal ME view*) help us better read and understand scripture?

### APPLY THE TRUTH

If you are looking for a good, readable Bible commentary, here are a few great places to start. Between the two series, every book of the Bible is represented with helpful insights presented passage-by-passage:

- *New Testament For Everyone* by N. T. Wright
- *Old Testament For Everyone* by John Goldingay

If you’d like to have a Bible with built in study notes, the *NIV Study Bible* is a readily available option in a variety of formats (hardcover, softcover, large print, etc.).

### NOTES:

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