FeedLead

Lesson Guide: *How We Read & Understand the Bible*

Lesson Objectives
- Understand the value of interpreting Biblical texts within their original intent and context
- Understand the transformative power of engaging in God's Word
- Begin considering how to equip young people to more effectively read and understand the Bible the way it was originally written

Key Points
- The Bible is God's Word written *for* us, but not necessarily written *to* us in our specific time and place.
- When we read the Bible, our goal should be to interpret the texts:
  - Within their own literary context
  - In light of their historical background
  - As part of a unified and diverse set of theological voices
- God uses Scripture to transform us and make us into the likeness of His Son.

Reflection Questions
- Why do you think it is so important to understand that God's Word is written for us, but not to us?
- When was the most recent time the Word of God transformed how you think or act in some way?
- How does seeking to understand Scripture within its original context influence how you currently read the Bible?
- What has helped you the most in better understanding biblical texts within their literary context or historical background? (Tools / methods / approaches)

Application Questions
- What are specific ways we can help students read the Bible and understand it within its original intent and contexts?
- How might you convey the diversity and unity of the Gospel message throughout the Bible with your students?
- Consider bringing this teaching to your next youth leader training session or meeting. Practice this approach in reading and understanding the Bible together. Select a Scripture passage and discuss with your leaders the questions below. After discussing, think about how you might share this approach with students:
  - What type of literary genre is this Scripture passage?
  - What did the author of this biblical book intend in writing this?
  - What was happening in the historical time period of this writing?

Feed
A OneHope INITIATIVE