

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER WHILE YOU READ:

- 💡 What did you notice **for the first time**?
- ❓ What **questions** do you have?
- 😞 Was there anything that **bothered** you?
- 💖 What did you learn about **loving God**?
- 👥 What did you learn about **loving others**?

## WHAT NEXT?

Having completed The Writings, you can go on to experience even more of the Bible in the same way. Covenant History and The Prophets, are the remaining two programmes which make up the Old Testament. There is also the New Testament which can be read in 8 or 16 weeks. This has alternative reading plans which take you through individual books or groups of books more slowly.

A group of us play **football** together on a Monday night and in-between runs on goal I was being **peppered with questions about the Bible** – this **never** happened before we did **Community Bible Experience**. The only problem is **catching my breath** to answer!

Church Leader, Craigavon

## MORE INFORMATION:

If you require more information about Community Bible Experience please check out the Biblica website or contact the Biblica Europe office and a member of staff will be in touch.



Community  
Bible Experience™

THE WRITINGS

# INTRODUCING COMMUNITY BIBLE EXPERIENCE

The Bible is the world's best-selling book. A book that's been burned or banned by different authorities for over 20 centuries. It's a story that has thrived and survived, transforming lives even under totalitarian persecution.

Millions of people around the globe and throughout history have based their lives on this book – some going to their deaths rather than deny its truth – and yet others reject it without even reading it.

Have you read it? All of it? If not, you're not alone.

**Too often we read in fragments.** Staggeringly few Christians have read the whole Bible.

**Too often we read without context.** By failing to fully understanding the big picture and historical or literary context we can struggle to connect the Bible to our world today.

**Too often we read in isolation.** Personal Bible reading is a wonderful thing. But it's not the only thing. Scripture was originally intended to be read and experienced in community.

**Community Bible Experience turns this on its head...**



...the **complete** Bible,



understood in **context**,



experienced in **community!**

Reading through The Writings you will discover a collection of books that reflect a wide range of traditions and literary styles.

From the lyrical writing in Psalms, Lamentations and Songs of Solomon, that express a range of emotions and life experiences to the wisdom literature of the Proverbs and Ecclesiastes. You will also continue reading through the historic books of Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah and more.

The Writings can be read using an 8 or 16 week reading plan.

# HOW IT WORKS:

## 1 Get Together

Gather with a few friends or colleagues, or an existing book club or small group—and commit to reading The Writings together in 8 or 16 weeks.

## 2 Read big

During the weeks of the programme, you'll read a completely different presentation of the full text. You'll read whole books—not just bits and pieces. By the end, you'll have read every word of The Writings.

## 3 Discuss

Meet together, weekly, to discuss what you're reading. This is an opportunity to share how God's story is impacting you—what inspires, surprises, puzzles, or challenges.

# SOME TOP TIPS:

- Think 'book club' rather than 'Bible study'.
- Invite friends or colleagues. The simple formatting of the text and book club style discussion makes it easy for anyone (even if they have never read the Bible) to join in. Who could you invite to join your 'book club'?
- Make use of the reading plan on the accompanying bookmark. It is a five days a week plan (for 8 or 16 weeks) and follows the natural literary breaks in the text.
- Don't give up, even if you fall behind. The support of your group is hugely important and the free days over the weekend are pretty helpful too. However, if you fall behind significantly we suggest you jump to the page the rest of your group are on and read the section you missed at the end.
- Engage with social media. Link to our Facebook page, Twitter handle and hashtag **#readthebible**.



GET TOGETHER

READ BIG

DISCUSS

I was **reading** my book in work and a couple of **colleagues**, who don't go to church started asking **questions...**before I knew it, **seven** of us were reading it **together** and meeting every Monday lunchtime to **chat** about what we had **read**.

Mum of Two, Belfast