

# STUDY THE SCRIPTURES

## S.O.A.P. BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS

<p><b>S</b> SCRIPTURE</p>	<p>What passage are you reading?</p> <p>Where is it located in the Bible?</p> <p>What do you know about this passage already?</p>
<p><b>O</b> OBSERVE</p>	<p>Summarize what you read.</p> <p>Who are the main characters? What do you learn from them?</p> <p>What do you learn about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit from this passage?</p> <p>What questions do you have? How will you find the answer?</p>
<p><b>A</b> APPLY</p>	<p>What do I want to remember from this passage?</p> <p>How is God calling me to respond? (i.e. an internal or external response)</p>
<p><b>P</b> PRAYER</p>	<p>Write out a prayer using what you learned as inspiration.</p>

# STUDY THE SCRIPTURES

## THE SWORD QUESTIONS

GOD/JESUS/  
HOLY SPIRIT

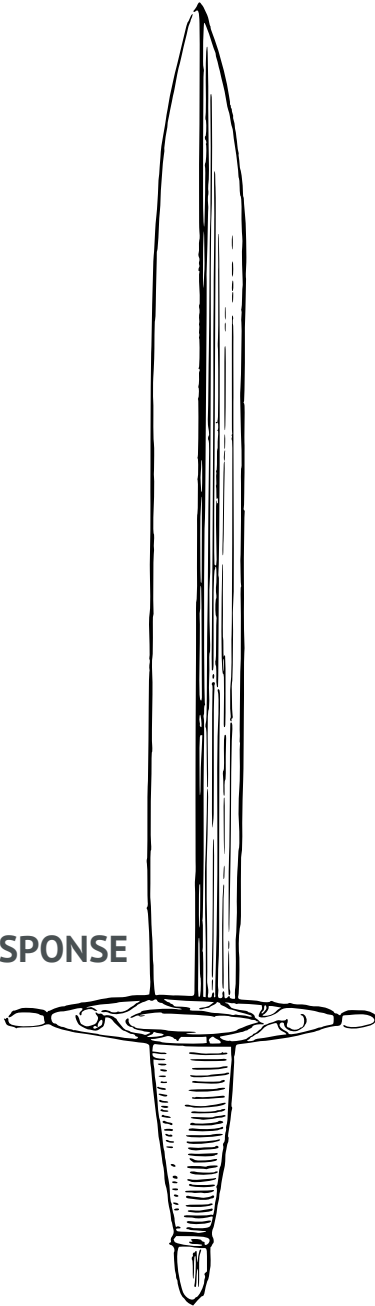
“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

Hebrews 4:12

Scripture refers to the Word of God as a double-edged sword. As you see in the visual to the left, there is a sword with three labels: God/Jesus/Holy Spirit, Humanity, Response. These labels represent the three big discovery questions you should ask when reading scripture.

- Since the tip of the sword points to Heaven (toward God), you ask the first question: **"What do I learn about God/Jesus/Holy Spirit?"**
- The handle is held by people and should remind you of the second question: **"What do I learn about people?"** The question includes what you learn about the characters and what you learn about humanity as a whole.
- The guard connects the handle to the blade, just as you are connected to God and should remind you to ask the third question: **"How is God calling me to respond?"**

RESPONSE



PEOPLE

## TEACHING TIP

TO HELP PARTICIPANTS MEMORIZE THE SWORD QUESTIONS, HAVE THEM STAND UP AND IMAGINE THEIR BODY IS A SWORD. THEN INSTRUCT THEM TO REPEAT THE THREE QUESTIONS AS THEY "ACT" OUT THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE SWORD (EX. POINT WITH ARMS TO SKY = BLADE = QUESTION ABOUT GOD)

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## THE SWORD QUESTIONS

### PASSAGE:

What do I learn about God/Jesus/Holy Spirit?

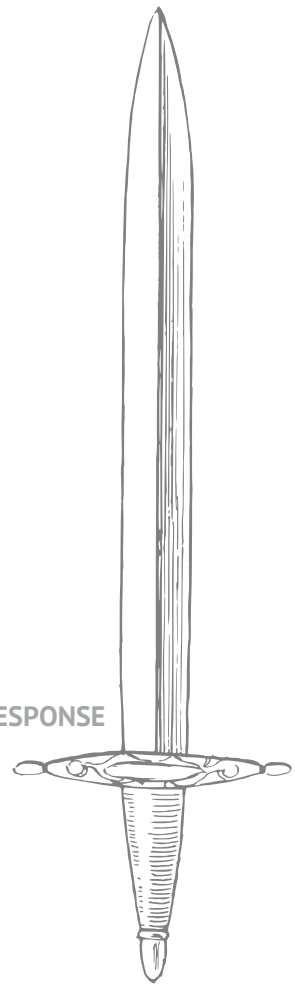
What do I learn about people?

How is God calling me to respond?

GOD/JESUS/  
HOLY SPIRIT

RESPONSE

PEOPLE



# STUDY THE SCRIPTURES

## THE THREE BIG QUESTIONS

The following is a detailed list of questions to ask after reading a portion of scripture. The questions are under three main categories: About, Learn, and Apply.



1

### 1. About

- What are the main characters doing in this passage?
- Which points seem most important?
- Setting: Where is the story taking place? What is the significance?
- How would you summarize the passage in one sentence?



2

### 2. Learn

- What does the passage reveal about God?  
About people?
- What promises, commands, or warnings do you see?
- What's a key truth you see in these verses?
- What new, encouraging, or challenging points stand out to you?



3

### 3. Apply

- How does this relate to your life right now?
- How do you think you should respond to what you learned?
- What do you think you should pray for based on this passage?
- Does your thinking and behavior line up with what the passage teaches?
- What change would you like to implement in your life based on these verses?