



What is the Year of Biblical Literacy (YOBL)?

In short, it's two things.

1. **It's a personal scripture reading plan** designed to immerse you daily in the Bible's story, so that you may understand and experience the presence, character, and way of Jesus. Starting Jan. 1, 2018, you'll be using the Bible Project's reading plan (download free app: www.readscripture.org) to begin this personal/transformational journey.
2. **It's a small group curriculum** designed to engage a community of people in the Bible's story together throughout the year. We'll be providing a Community Group Kickoff/Training to equip you to not only utilize the material, but also to familiarize you with the joy of facilitating a small group. Sign-up at: www.calvaryslo.com/communitygroups

Why would I lead a Year of Biblical Literacy small group?

Chances are, you're curious about leading a group, and are already a relatively big fan of the Bible and now you want to share that with others. By facilitating a small group, you embrace the blessed pleasure of guiding others into the beautiful story of God in Scripture.

What if I'm not a teacher or Bible scholar?

There are many different types of leaders, some are indeed teachers or Bible scholars while the majority are not. If you do not have formal Bible training, there's no need to worry! You still have so much to offer, possibly even more in the form of openness and wonder than someone who is indeed a "teacher" or Bible scholar.

No matter what type of leader you are, curiosity is your best friend in Biblical education, just as it is in any learning situation. Furthermore, the prayerful discussion-based approach we take in small group material intentionally sets God and His words revealed in Scripture as the authority in the room. To be able to lead a group, all you need to do is: **read**, **facilitate discussion**, and **trust in the work of God's Spirit**...we're sure you can do this!

What should I expect from the YOBL small group material?

The small group material is ultimately a tool to help facilitate a guided discussion, with questions that build upon one another. Questions range from highly intellectual to tenderly personal to intentionally practical. Along with discussing, a weekly ground rule or value orients a group to putting the way of Jesus into practice during the meeting. By maintaining this structure throughout each week, the material itself helps to facilitate a practice space for small groups — like a dojo for the Kingdom with Jesus as our master instructor.

How should I use the material?

As mentioned above, each material is written in the same structure, with 10-segments you can expect to see every week. We encourage you to read through the material before each week's meeting and adapt it to your context as you see fit. Think of it more as a safety net than script. Follow it when helpful and also feel free to let each discussion take on a life of its own!

What sort of supplemental support is there?

Along with the weekly material, we have the read scripture videos giving a bird's-eye view of each book and online sermons for reference, lecture series on some of the more difficult passages of scripture, as well as reference materials for more in depth study. Plus we encourage all group leaders to seek help from our team of coaches/mentors, fellow small group leaders, and especially from the members of the group you lead.

