



One Friend. One Journal. One Invitation.

THIS IS OUR CHURCH DWELL CHALLENGE. INVITE AT LEAST ONE FRIEND TO READ WITH YOU. THEN GET TOGETHER WITH THEM ONCE A WEEK, VERY CASUALLY, AND ASK ONE QUESTION: "SO, WHAT STUCK OUT TO YOU AS YOU READ THIS WEEK?"

FAQS

"What if they say no?"

Then you've lost nothing and gained everything. You planted a seed, and God can do amazing things with one seed. Some of the best conversations I've ever had about faith started with someone who said "not right now" the first time I asked. Rejection isn't failure here — silence is. So ask! Let them say no. Then keep loving them anyway. Trust God with the seed. He's a fantastic farmer.

"What if they're not a Christian at all?"

Even better! You're not inviting them to some church program; you're inviting them to read a book with a friend. "Would you like to read the Bible with me?" is one of the least threatening invitations you can make, because you're not asking them to believe anything yet — you're just asking them to look at it together. Some of the most fruitful DWELL relationships start with people who aren't sure what they believe. Don't wait for them to be "ready." You go first.

"What if I'm not a good enough Christian to lead this?"

Listen, if that were the bar, none of us would ever invite anybody to anything. You're not leading a seminary class. You're reading a chapter and asking, "What stuck out to you?" That's it. You don't need four years of Bible college — you need a few minutes and a willingness to be honest.

"What happens if they ask me a question I don't know how to answer?"

Great question! We actually HOPE they ask hard questions! That means they're paying attention and doing the reading! If that happens, don't panic. Together with your friend, pull up pcbc.org/dwell and look at the bottom of the page for the resources we've curated there for you. Then, look up the answers together. I promise you, if you let THEM find the answer, they're much more likely to act on it than if you just give them the answers. You can do this!



“What if we get behind on the reading plan?”

Then you get behind together. This isn't a race — it's a relationship. Grace is kind of the whole point of the book you're reading. Pick back up with the current day when you restart. Don't try to go back and catch up. The point is developing a daily rhythm you can maintain — not checking off every single day. Don't quit because it started feeling like a huge mound of homework. Just build a healthy daily rhythm.

“What if my friend already knows more about the Bible than I do?”

Wonderful — now you've got a partner, not a project. This was never about you being the expert. It's about two people opening the same passage and asking the same two questions: What did you hear, and what are you going to do about it? Let them teach you something. That's discipleship too.

“How do we actually do this — coffee shop, text, phone call?”

Whatever fits your friendship. Some people will meet for coffee once a week. Some will do a five-minute phone call. Some will just text each other after they read. The method matters way less than the consistency. Pick something you'll be able to keep doing, not something that looks impressive on paper but is impossible to maintain.

“What if my friend has been hurt by church before?”

Then you may be providing them with the safest church experience they've had in a long time — because this is just you. One friend, sitting across a table, reading a verse together, no program, no pressure, no stage. Let them bring their questions and their scars. You're not there to defend the church. And you're not there to heal their hurts. You're just bringing your wounded friend to Jesus. Watch what he does.

“What if I don't feel close enough to this person to ask them?”

Then this might be exactly how you get close enough. Some of the deepest friendships I've had didn't start deep — they started with somebody taking a small risk. “Would you like to read the Bible with me?” is a low-pressure door into a high-trust relationship. You don't need years of history first. You just need a great reading plan and a tiny bit of courage.

“What if they agree, and then it just ... fizzles?”

It might. That's OK. Plenty of things worth doing take more than one attempt. If it fizzles, don't quietly let it die — say something. “Hey, I miss our reading time. Want to pick it back up?” is one sentence, and it works more often than you'd think. And even a few weeks of reading together leaves a mark that outlasts the calendar.

“What if I invite them and it feels awkward?”

It probably will, for about fifteen seconds. Awkward is not the same as wrong. Every meaningful invitation I've ever offered to somebody felt a little awkward right up until the moment they said yes — and then it just felt like friendship. Push through the fifteen seconds.



“What if my friend doesn’t have a Bible?”

What an awesome opportunity! We have some NLT paperback Bibles for you. Ask Keith or Caleb and we’ll get you one. If you’re purchasing a Bible for them, we recommend the NLT for new or inexperienced Bible readers. Or give them the link to the YouVersion Bible they can access on their phone. It has hundreds of languages and translations available — all for free. www.bible.com

(Ask them to text DWELL to 74899, and they’ll get a link every day that will take them to the passage.)

Have a question that isn’t answered here?

Please send it to Keith at klowry@pcbc.org or Caleb at crhoades@pcbc.org. We’ll answer you, and it could end up on this list of FAQs if it’s applicable to others! You’ll be helping EVERYONE!

Start here:

Ask the Lord to give you the name of a person who would benefit from doing this with you. Write it down. Then start praying for them, by name, every day. Ask the Lord to prepare an opening for you to ask, “Would you like to read the Bible with me?” Then, when he does, be brave — ask — and then just watch what God does!



TEXT **DWELL** TO 74899 TO RECEIVE A DAILY SCRIPTURE REMINDER AND LINK TO THAT DAY'S PASSAGE. (P.S. — YOUR FRIEND CAN DO THIS AS WELL!)

Download your own digital DWELL Journal and find Bible reading helps here: www.pcbc.org/dwell.

