SIXTY-SIX BOOKS

The world’s best-selling book, the Bible, was written between roughly 1500 B.C. and approximately A.D. 100 by some forty authors. Each of these authors had different cultures, educational backgrounds, personalities, and languages, yet their writings do not contradict each other under the rubric of Christ. If it weren’t for the same Spirit who inspired all of these writers, a similar harmony could not exist if forty random shepherds, farmers, tentmakers, physicians, fishermen, priests, philosophers, and kings from different times and cultures were to write a 66-book compilation.

Today the Bible is translated into hundreds of languages and continues to grow in its circulation. What is it about the text that continues to impact thousands of souls daily? The evidence remains that the Bible is a book that has supernatural ramifications, regardless of personal background. This is why the Word of God plays a crucial role in discipleship.

We have established that disciples are called to make disciples. But there are limitations to human ability. So last week, we studied prayer as one power source that involves God in discipleship. This week, we will look at a second source that connects disciples directly with the power of God.
Write out Isaiah 55:1–13 from the translation of your choice. If you’re pressed for time, write Isaiah 55:6–11. You may also re-write the passage in your own words, outline, or mind-map the chapter.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

**Circle** repeated words/phrases/ideas

**Underline** words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw Arrows to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse in Isaiah 55:1–13. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

How have you experienced the ways and thoughts of God in the reading and study of the Bible? If not yet, why not?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/disc04-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks overall seem to point to?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

What are time management areas you need to work on in discipleship and Bible study?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/disc04-4
What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

Psalm 119 (particularly vv. 11, 50, 154)
James 1:21, 22
2 Peter 1:2–4

What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with discipleship and Bible study?

Where do you see Jesus in Isaiah 55:1–13?

How is your new man eating?

What is Jesus saying to you through these texts?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/disc04-6
inSight

Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study of the chapter, what personal applications are you convicted of in your life?

What practical applications must you make in your school, family, workplace, and church?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/disc04-7
Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

How many times a day do you eat? How many times a day do you eat spiritually? Can the Bible be overeaten?

How can you incorporate the study of Scripture in your daily schedule?

How can the Scriptures be made more a daily part of our spiritual walk in contemporary times?

What are your ways and thoughts that need to be forsaken? How can the Word accomplish this?

Up to what point should Scripture be adapted, or would that be altering the potential power of Scripture?

In what ways are the written and living Word of God the same?

What role does the Bible really play in your daily spiritual warfare?