

# Small Group Discussion Guide

Perilous Waters | *Navigating the Dangerous Currents Shaping the Church*

Part 1: Drifting Without Anchors

**BIG Idea:** When Scripture loses its authority, we drift from the faith once delivered toward a faith of our own making.

**Application:** Re-anchor your faith in Scripture as the primary shaping authority for what you believe, how you discern, and how you live.

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## Discussion Questions

**Icebreaker:** When you need advice or help making a decision, where do you instinctively turn first?

1. What idea or passage from Sunday's message stood out to you most? Why?
2. What is the difference between respecting the Bible and actually living under its authority?
3. Read 2 Timothy 3:16–17. What different kinds of work does Paul say Scripture performs in us? Which of these—teaching, exposing error, correcting, or training—do you find easiest or most difficult to receive?
4. Pastor Marv taught that Scripture gives us discernment, wisdom, and a Christ-centered worldview. What is one area in which the Bible has changed how you see God, yourself, or the world?
5. What voices—social media, podcasts, personalities, politics, personal experiences, or feelings—are most likely to compete with Scripture for authority in your life?
6. Read Psalm 119:165. How can loving God's instruction produce peace and make us less easily knocked off course by conflict, disappointment, or offense?
7. Read Matthew 4:1–11. What do you notice about the way Jesus responded to temptation? What does Satan's misuse of Scripture teach us about knowing verses in their proper context?
8. Read Ephesians 6:12 and 17. What does it mean for the Word of God to function as the sword of the Spirit? Where do you presently need biblical truth to help you resist temptation or deception?
9. Pastor Marv introduced SOAP: Scripture, Observation, Application, and Prayer. Which part of that process feels most natural to you? Which part might require greater intentionality?
10. What specific change can you make this week to give Scripture greater priority and authority in your daily life?

*Join us as we read the Bible together in 2026.* <https://bit.ly/ReadwithMe26>

**Prayer Prompt:** Ask God to reveal where another voice, preference, or feeling has quietly been given greater authority than Scripture. Pray for renewed hunger for the Word, discernment to recognize deception, maturity and peace when confronted or offended, and strength to resist temptation. Ask the Holy Spirit to help each person establish a faithful rhythm of reading, understanding, applying, and praying through Scripture.