

## Transformed by Word and Spirit (part 1)



### Worship

We are going to focus together on aspects of the character of God. You might want to have a quiet worship tape playing in the background during some of this worship time. Each member of the group will need a pen (felt tips would be good) and a piece of paper. Ask them all to think about God's character and to write down a word that describes one aspect of His nature – for instance “Forgiving”, “Holy”, “Generous” etc. Then lay all the pieces of paper on the floor where they can be seen by everyone. Leave a few minutes to meditate upon the things that have been written. Then allow each person, one at a time, to point out one piece of paper and say briefly why that particular aspect of God's character is important to them at the moment.



### Bible Study

Give each person the opportunity to share briefly about a time or period when they did a lot of ‘growing’, in the spiritual sense. What things caused this, or made it particularly stand out in their memory?

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17 and Hebrews 4:12

- What do you understand by the phrase “God-breathed”?
- In what way is the Bible “Living and active”?
- Make a list of all the different ways that these passages tell us that the Bible can impact our lives as believers.
- Discuss each of them. What do they mean in practical terms? For instance, in what way might we be ‘rebuked’ when we study the Bible?



### Reflection

Think about your own group, and discuss together honestly...

- What are our expectations as we come to study the Bible together?
- Have we experienced all of the things that we have just discussed happening as we have studied God's word together as a group? Is it reasonable to expect that we should?
- Do any of the ‘effects’ of God's word that we have discussed make us feel uncomfortable? Would we be willing for God to deal with us in any of these ways in a group meeting?
- Can anyone share a recent occasion when they have gone home ‘changed’ as a result of something they have experienced in a Bible study?



### Prayer

Let's ask the Lord to turn all of our times of Bible study into life-changing encounters with his living word. Ask Him to make our group a place where we are secure enough to *allow* Him to transform us. Would He make us ever ready to be challenged, corrected, rebuked, trained, equipped...