

## Module 05

# Studying with W3s and Winning Souls

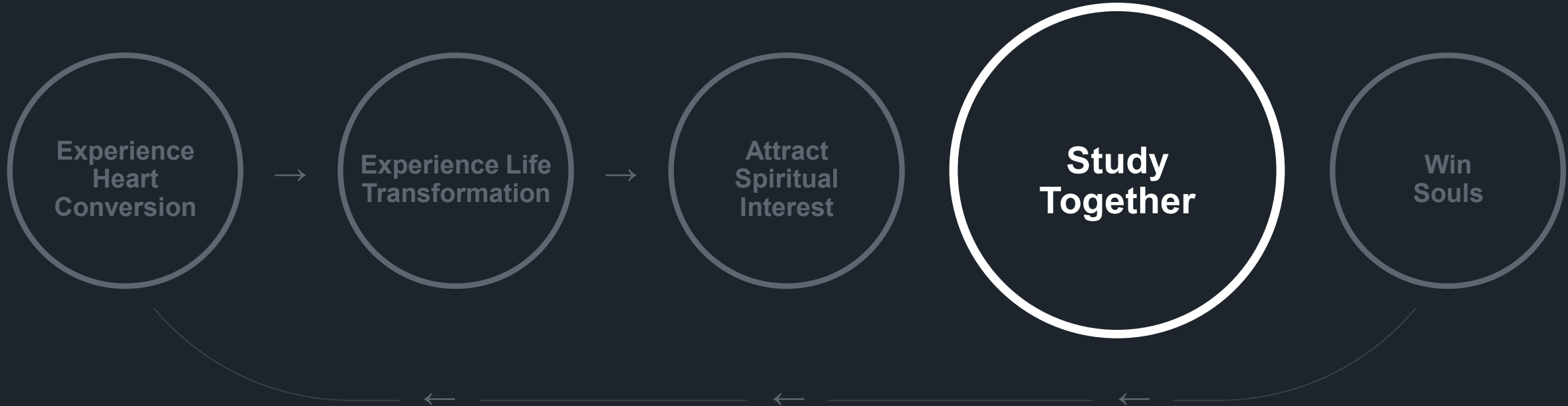


## Poll the audience

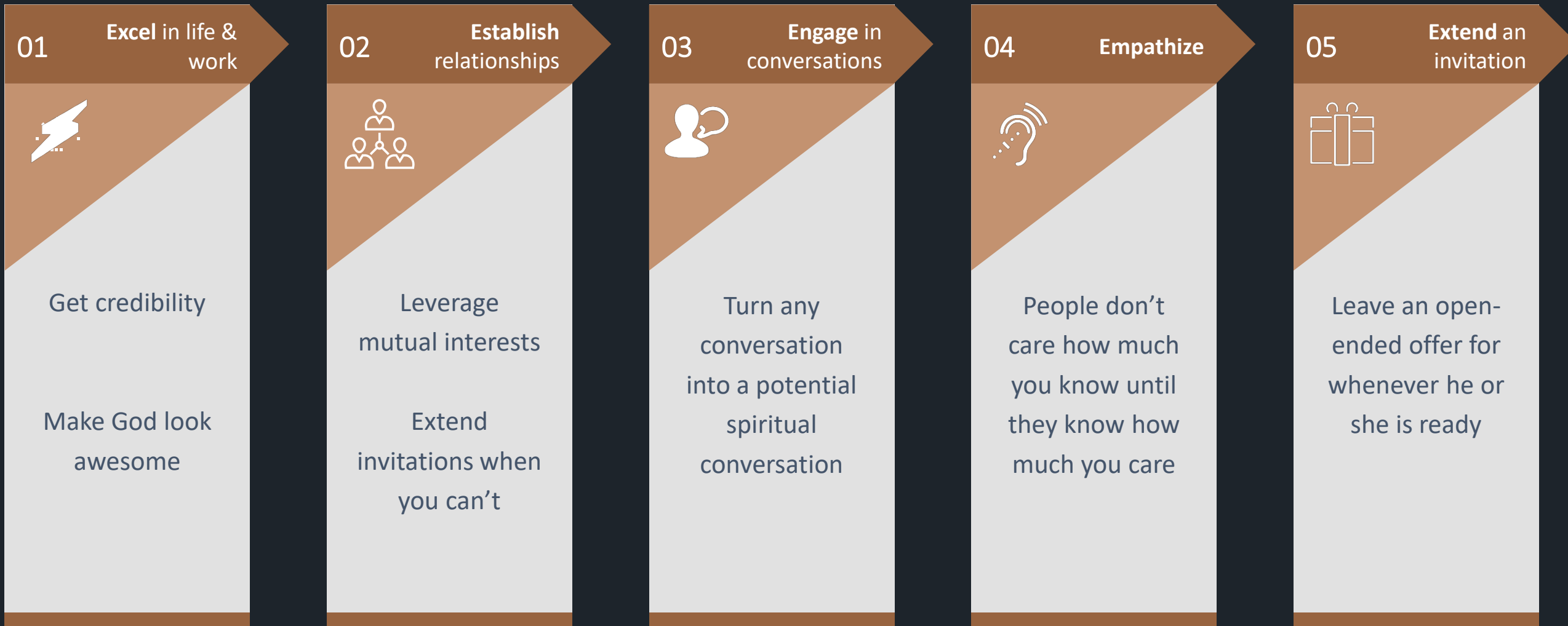
Go to **menti.com** and use  
the code **57 77 03**



## Sharing Christ drives a “virtuous cycle”



# Attracting spiritual interests is an active, intentional process



# How do you get over the hump?



**Always leave an open-ended invitation**

**“If you’d ever like to discuss these topics further, just let me know ...”**

# Anatomy of a Bible study



## Anatomy of a Bible study

**Pick a place conducive to conversation (but doesn't have to be in private)**



## Anatomy of a Bible study

# You should both have Bibles



## Anatomy of a Bible study

# You should both have Bibles

# If he/she does not have a Bible, give them one



## Anatomy of a Bible study

**You should both  
have Bibles  
Take turns reading out loud**



## Anatomy of a Bible study

# Manage time carefully, end on time!



## Anatomy of a Bible study

# Manage time carefully, end on time!

## 15 min: Chit chat, reconnect, build rapport

## Anatomy of a Bible study

# Manage time carefully, end on time!

## 30 min: Bible study—open with prayer

## Anatomy of a Bible study

# Manage time carefully, end on time!

# 15 min: Questions, appeals, wrap-up, close with prayer

## Anatomy of a Bible study

# Manage time carefully, end on time!

# Don't get side tracked—“That's another study...we'll get there”




## Anatomy of a Bible study



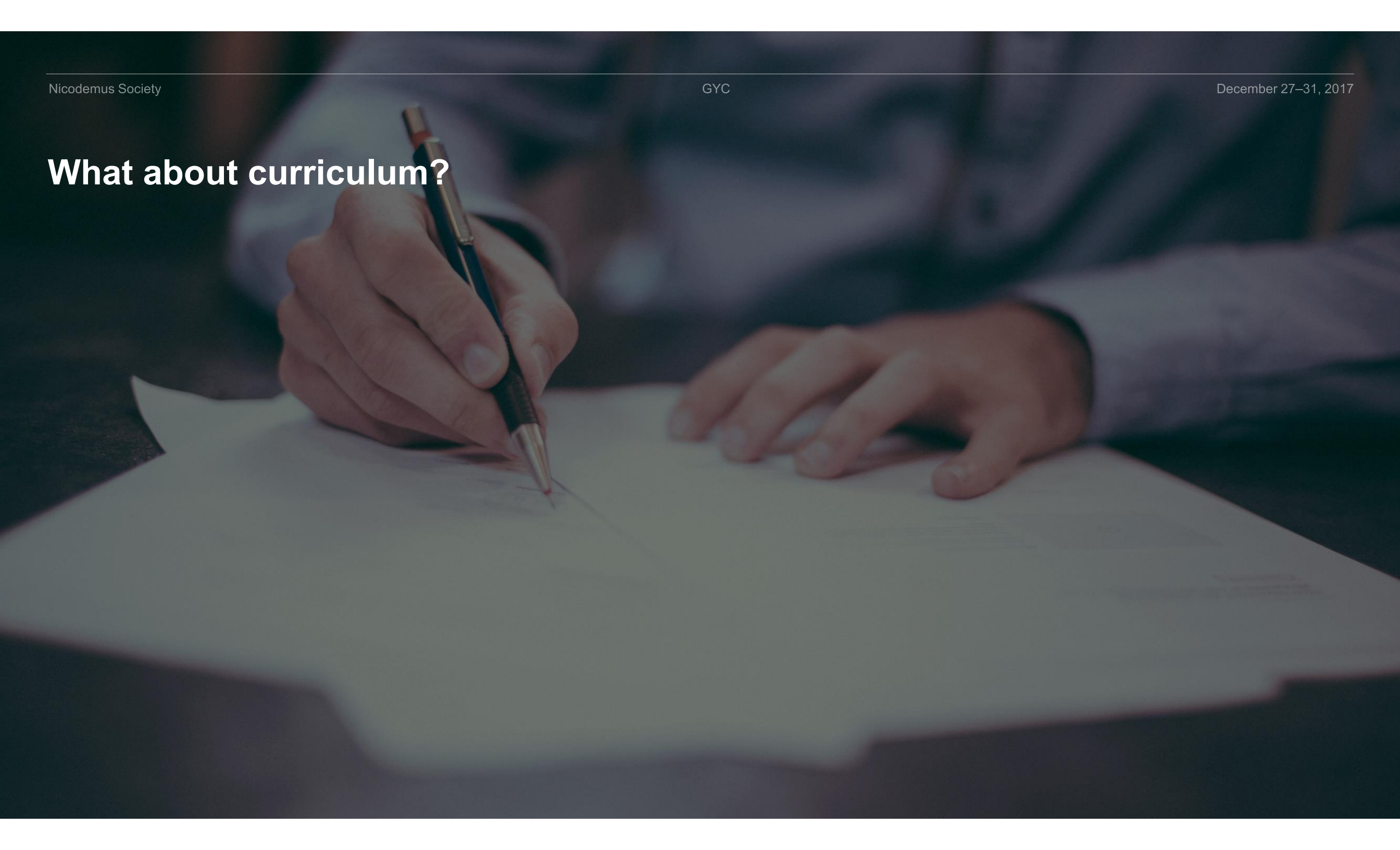
**Ask them what they know/think about a topic up front**

## Anatomy of a Bible study



**Actively solicit questions and reactions—keep the dialogue OPEN**

# What about curriculum?



**What about curriculum?**

**Pick something you feel  
confident presenting and  
that you think will fit your  
audience**

**What about curriculum?**

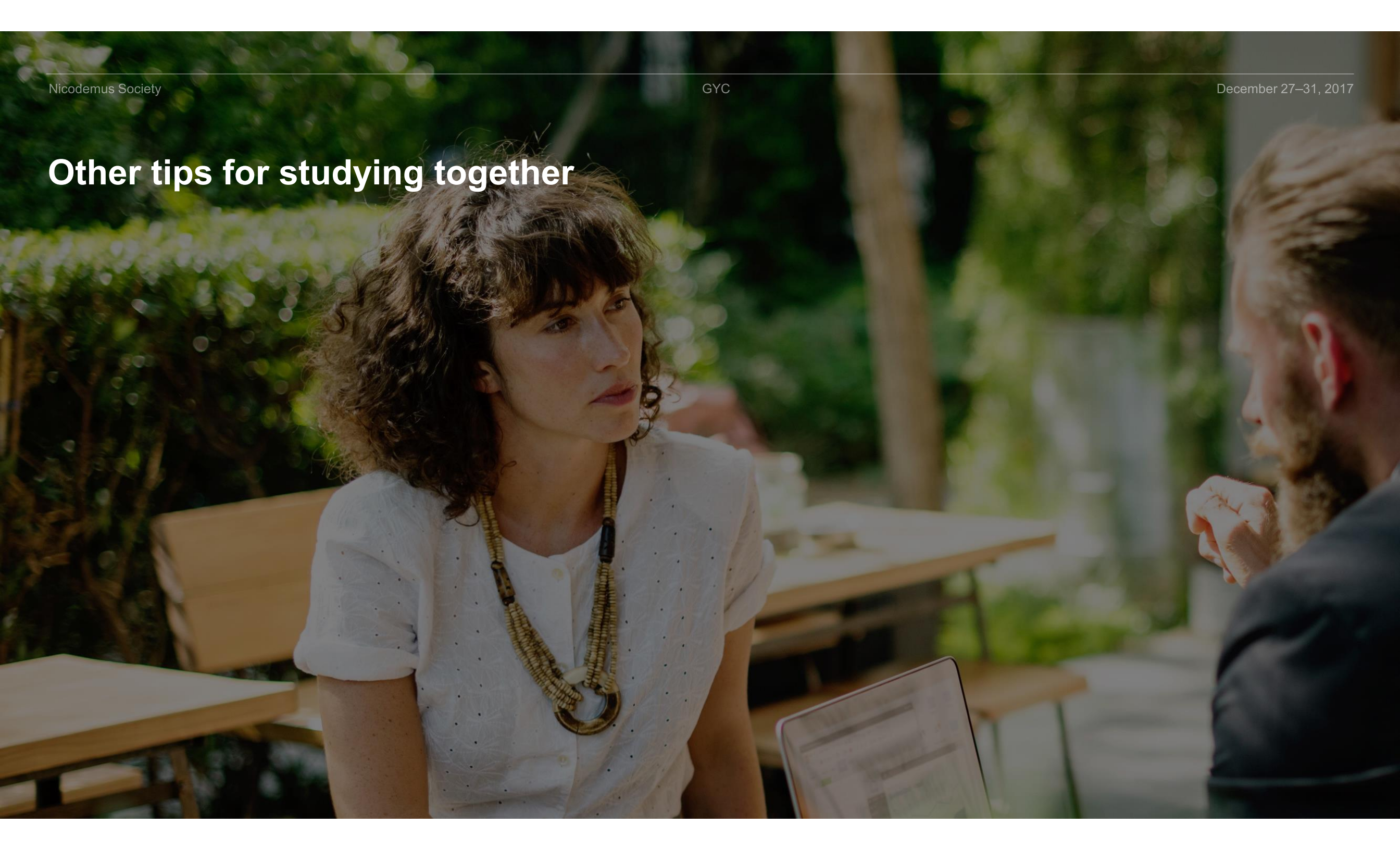
**Off-the-shelf Bible study  
like “Truth Link” by Ty  
Gibson ([lightbearers.org](http://lightbearers.org))**

**What About Curriculum?**

**Or write your own by  
packaging concepts from  
other resources**

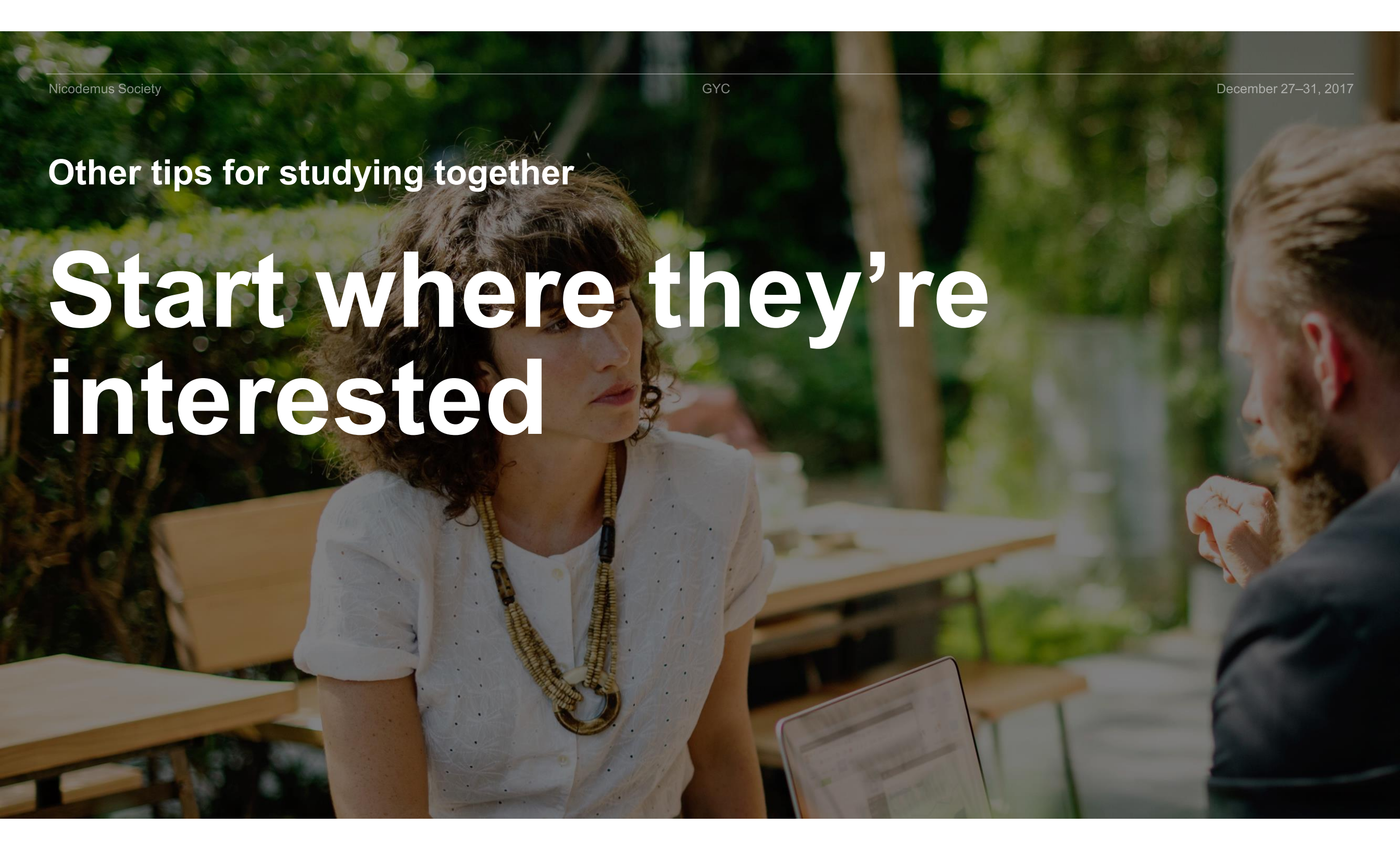
**ARISE training series ([ppvida.com](http://ppvida.com)) | Deliver Us From Evil ([ppvida.com](http://ppvida.com)) | Discover Bible Prophecy Seminar ([ppvida.com](http://ppvida.com)) | Revelation and Daniel studies ([lightbearers.org](http://lightbearers.org)) | [Amazingfacts.org](http://Amazingfacts.org) | [Anchorpointfilms.com](http://Anchorpointfilms.com) | *Studying Together* by Mark Finley | *Bothersome and Disturbing Bible Passages* by Louis Torres | SDA Bible Commentary | ....**

## Other tips for studying together



Other tips for studying together

**Start where they're  
interested**





Other tips for studying together

# Take a factual tone



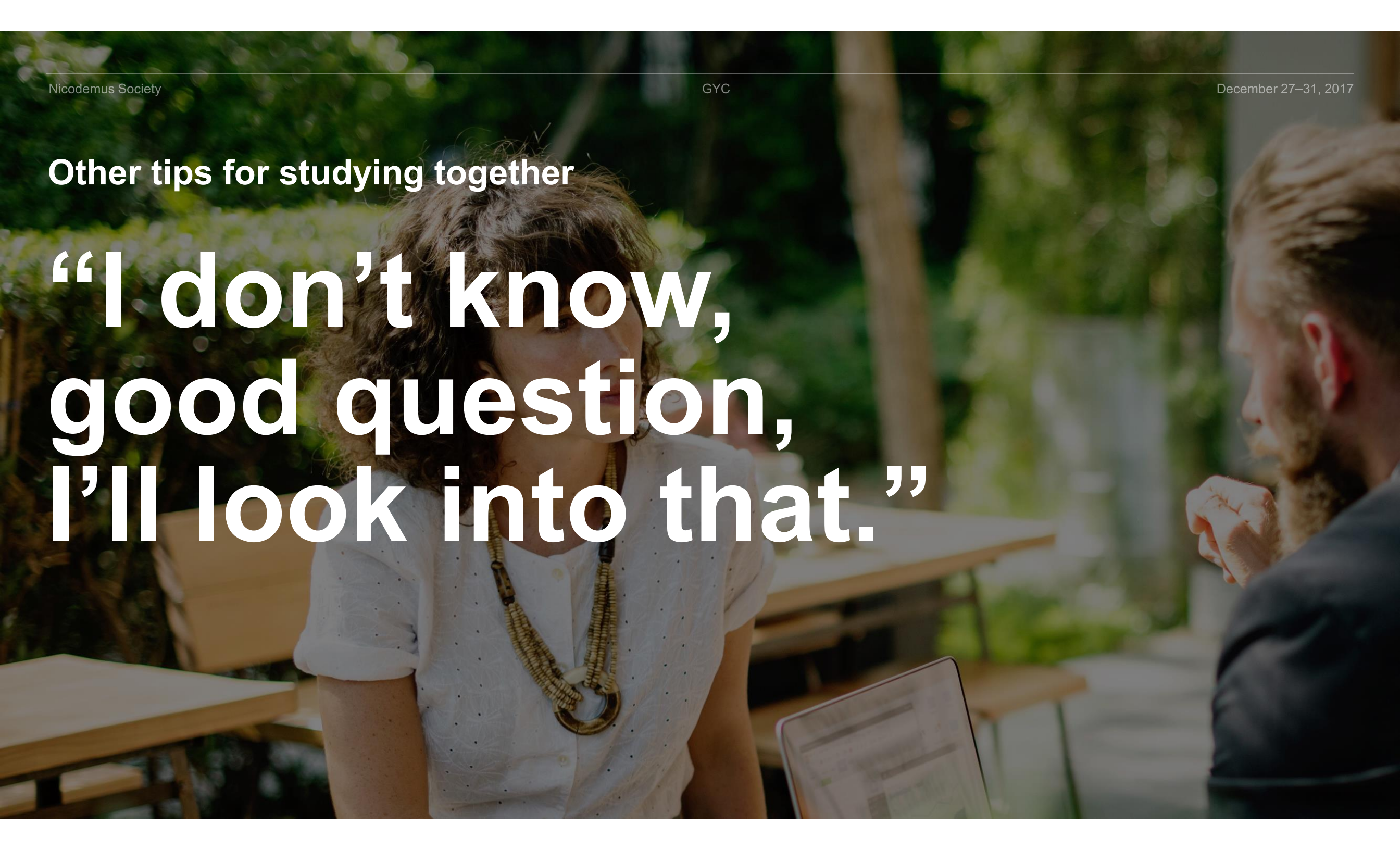
**Other tips for studying together**

**Make statements in the  
form of questions**

A woman with curly hair and a white top is sitting at a table outdoors, looking towards a man who is partially visible on the right. A laptop is open on the table in front of her. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees and a building.

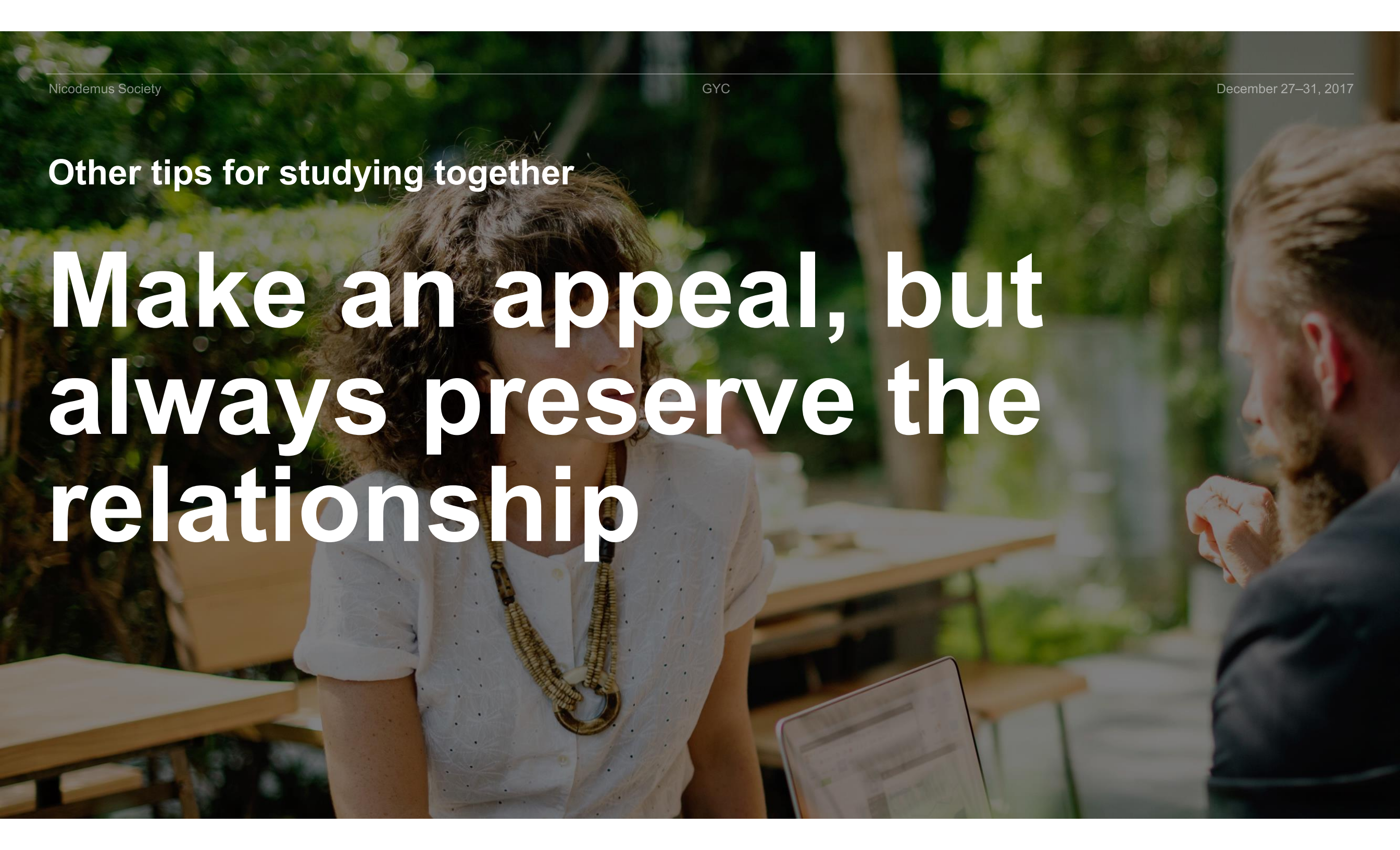
## Other tips for studying together

**“I don’t know,  
good question,  
I’ll look into that.”**



**Other tips for studying together**

**Make an appeal, but  
always preserve the  
relationship**

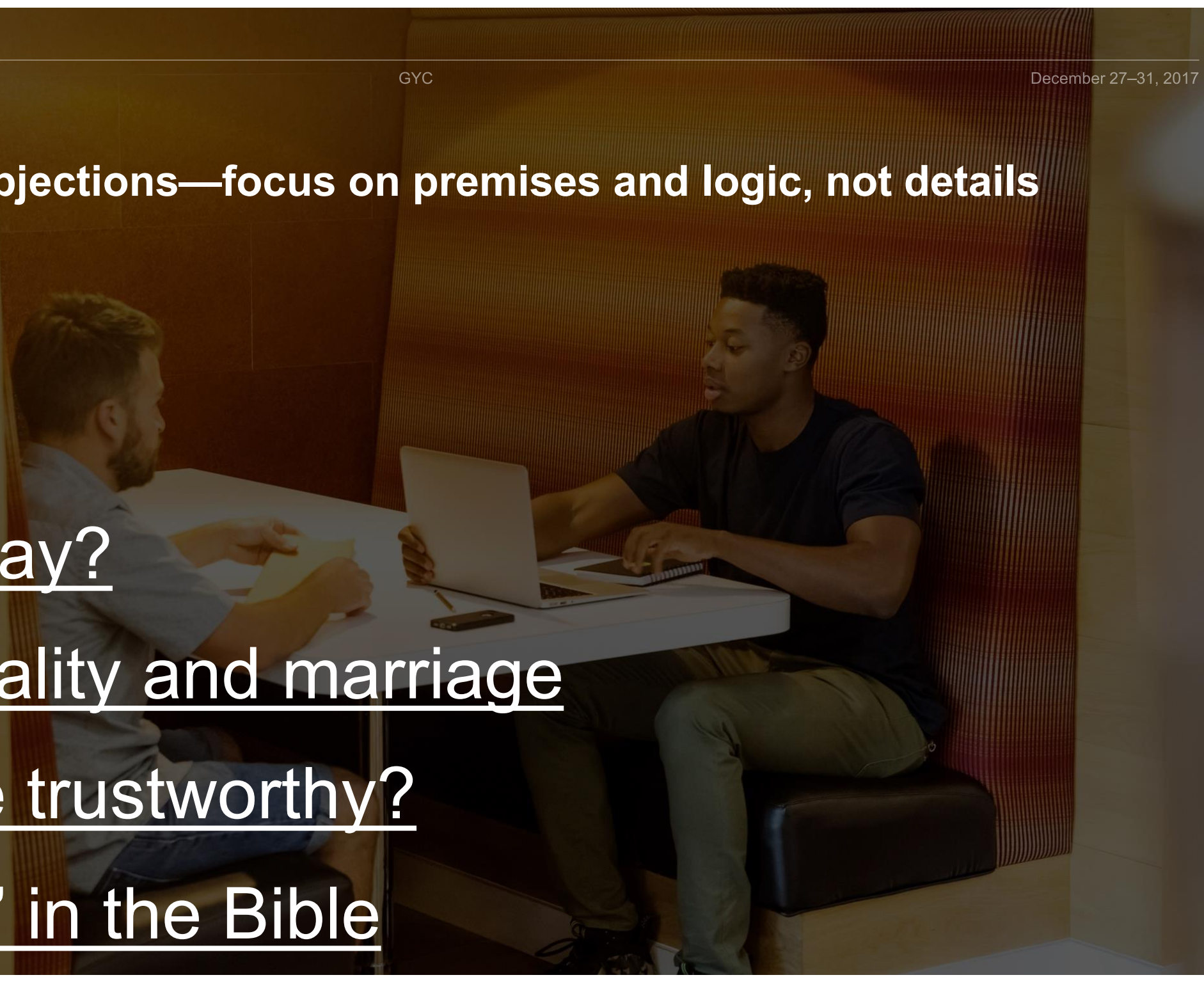


Other tips for studying together

# Remember, you're not the Holy Spirit

A woman with curly brown hair and a white top is sitting at a wooden table outdoors. She is looking thoughtfully to her right. A man with a beard is partially visible on the right side of the frame, looking towards her. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery and trees. The text is overlaid on the image.

## “Hot Topics” and Objections—focus on premises and logic, not details

- Origins
  - Theodicy
  - The only way?
  - Homosexuality and marriage
  - Is the Bible trustworthy?
  - “Genocide” in the Bible
- 
- A photograph of two men sitting at a white table in a modern, dimly lit room. The man on the left is wearing a light blue shirt and is looking at a document. The man on the right is wearing a dark blue t-shirt and is looking at a laptop. The background features a wall with vertical wooden slats and a dark leather cushioned bench.

## Origins

- **Summary: The Bible can't be true b/c creation is inconsistent with science**
- **Approach:**
  - **Objective is not to “prove” creation, but to illustrate its plausibility and inject doubt then lead them to see the superiority of the holistic Biblical worldview**
  - **The origin was not observed therefore cannot be “proven” → Everyone is interpreting evidence based on premises**
  - **Same data can be interpreted completely differently for example:**
    - **Similar DNA between species**
    - **Sun, Moon, and Stars (4<sup>th</sup> day of creation)**
    - **Apparent age of the earth (Oak tree illustration)**
  - **True question is not about origins; true question is about whether the God of the Bible exists and what He is capable of → Prophecy is a powerful body of evidence**



## Theodicy

- **Summary:** If God is real and good then why does evil and suffering exist?
- **Approach:**
  - Establish that God's highest value is love
  - Love requires choice and choice entails risk
  - God created sentient beings, not robots (both heavenly and on earth) who were capable of choice so that they would be capable of love
  - Some exercise their choice in ways that hurt others → Sin
  - God is not optimizing for no sin, He is optimizing for love
  - The Bible is the story of God persuading His creation so that out of love they will choose not to sin



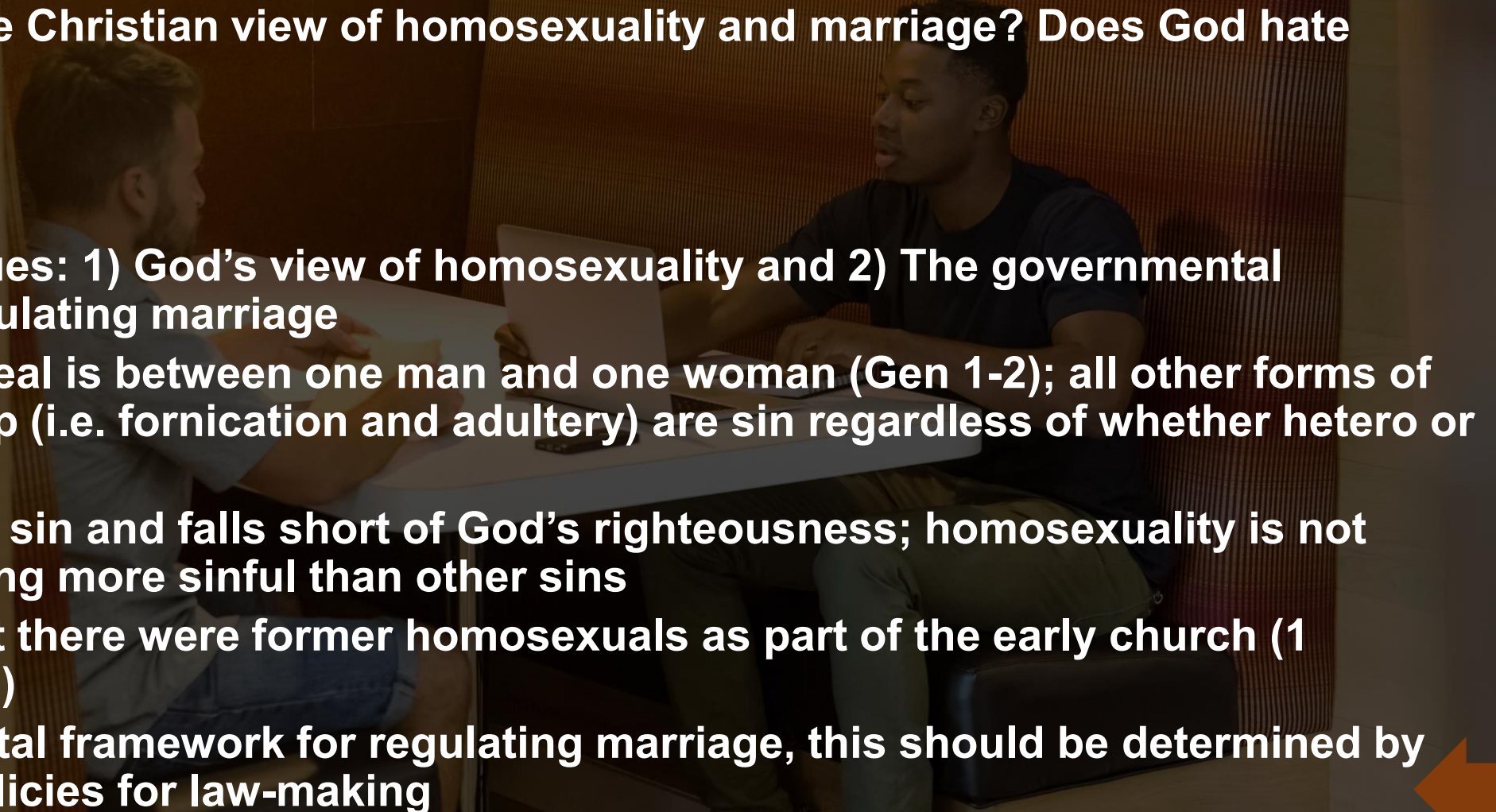


## Is Jesus really the only way?

- **Summary:** Does Christianity have “the corner” on the truth, or are all religions just different paths that all go to the same place?
- **Approach:**
  - Every worldview makes mutually exclusive claims regarding huge topics like origins, meaning, morality, and destiny (therefore, they can't all be correct)
  - Given the importance of the topics, it behooves any thoughtful individual to investigate and determine what is ultimately true
  - Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation and Christianity is the fullest revelation of Christ and the gospel message
  - However, Jesus works on hearts who never had explicit exposure to Christianity or a Bible (Romans 1-2; Acts 10, 17; James 4:17)
  - Only God can judge the state of someone's heart (Romans 14:12) and each of us will be held accountable for the light we've been given (Luke 12:47-49, Matt 13, Matt 25)
  - Consciously refusing the truth is a choice (hardening your heart)



## Christian view of homosexuality and marriage

- **Summary:** What is the Christian view of homosexuality and marriage? Does God hate gays?
  - **Approach:**
    - There are two issues: 1) God's view of homosexuality and 2) The governmental framework for regulating marriage
    - God's marriage ideal is between one man and one woman (Gen 1-2); all other forms of sexual relationship (i.e. fornication and adultery) are sin regardless of whether hetero or homo sexual
    - However, all sin is sin and falls short of God's righteousness; homosexuality is not singled out as being more sinful than other sins
    - And, we know that there were former homosexuals as part of the early church (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)
    - As for governmental framework for regulating marriage, this should be determined by each country's policies for law-making
- 



## Is the Bible trustworthy?

- **Summary:** Given scholarly questions about authorship and canonicity of the Biblical books, can we trust the Bible?
- **Approach:**
  - **God is love and therefore is a God who seeks to communicate**
  - **The Bible is His way to reveal Himself to us**
  - **The Bible asserts that it is divinely inspired by God through His prophets (2 Timothy 3:16-17)**
  - **God inspired the books of the Bible, the original people of God recognized and collected these books, and later Christian scholars categorized the canonical books according to the overall unity they perceived in them**
  - **The Bible has both internal and external evidence that supports its extraordinary claims (e.g. prophecy, internal consistency, transcultural appeal, translational integrity)**
    - **Bible's historical reliability greatly outperforms other ancient texts (e.g. Homer, Herodotus, and other ancient Greek and Romans works) given number of manuscripts and time gaps between the original writing and earliest copies**
  - **The Bible has an extraordinary impact on the individual and has transformed my life; you'll need to experience that piece of evidence for yourself**



## “Genocide” in the Bible

- **Summary: Is God a genocidal maniac (e.g. Sodom & Gomorrah, Plagues of Egypt, Conquest of Canaan)?**
- **Approach:**
  - **God’s judgements are based upon behavior, not ethnicity (e.g. Deuteronomy 9:4-5; 18:9-14; 23:7)**
  - **Israel was equally subject to God’s judgements (e.g. Golden Calf, Conquests by Assyrians, Babylonians, etc.)**
  - **God only exercises judgement after investigation (e.g. the Fall, angels visiting Sodom)**
  - **God always allows opportunity for repentance (e.g. Pharoah, Rahab in Jericho, Nineveh)**
  - **God’s expressed desire is to save all mankind, and only an unjust God would allow evil to exist without judgement**



## Progress Over Time: People You Know

# 1,000s



# Progress Over Time: Spiritual Conversations Leading to Bible Studies

# Few



## Progress Over Time: Converts

# Very Few



## **Our Aspirations for You**

**Recognize your heart condition**

**Go deeper with God**

**Develop a burden to reach W3s**

**Learn how to attract and win converts**



Bringing Christ into the “ordinary business of life” is difficult...

CT 279.2

**It requires more grace, more stern discipline of character, to work for God in the capacity of mechanic, merchant, lawyer, or farmer, carrying the precepts of Christianity into the ordinary business of life, than to labor as an acknowledged missionary in the open field.**

...but it is what the Lord requires

CT 279.2

It requires a **strong spiritual nerve** to bring religion into the workshop and the business office, sanctifying the details of everyday life, and ordering every transaction according to the standard of God's word. **But this is what the Lord requires.**

**Will you take up  
the challenge?**