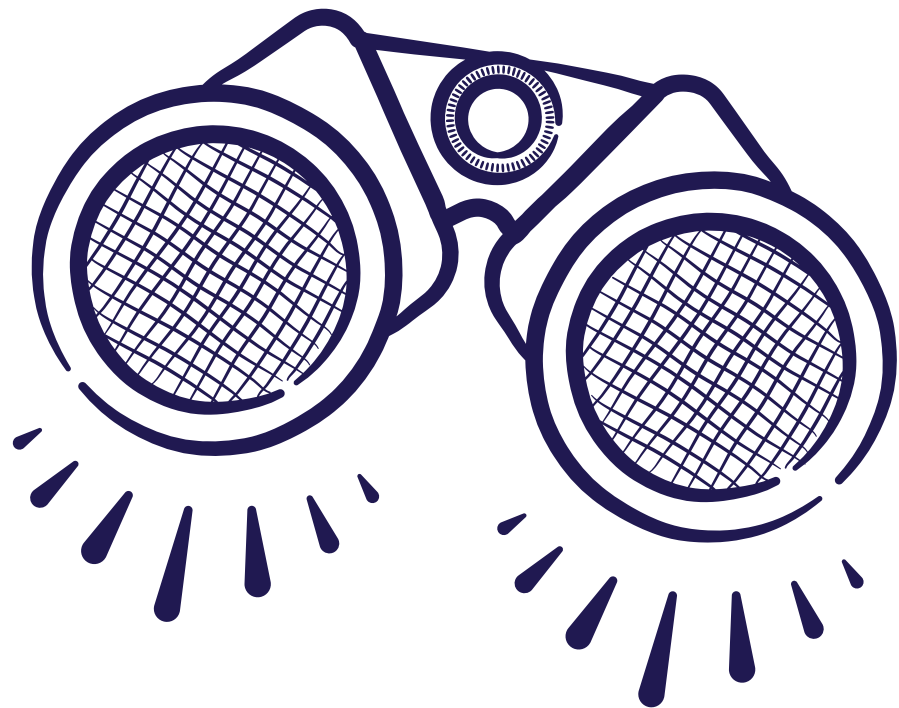




SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT FORMACIÓN



A resource for
planning and developing
training programmes

SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT FORMACIÓN

A resource for planning and developing training programmes

**“MY DEAR CHILDREN, FOR WHOM I AM AGAIN IN THE PAINS
OF CHILDBIRTH UNTIL CHRIST IS FORMED IN YOU...”**

(GALATIANS 4: 19, NIV)

How do we decide on the content of our formación events?

How do we make sure that we are both forming men and women of the Word and equipping them with skills for Scripture engagement?

How do we lay strong foundations with regard to God’s Word and connect with the student context with which we are seeking to engage this Word?

Those preparing training events need to think about what is best for their specific target group, their context and the length of their event. This resource is not a standard curriculum. Instead it seeks to help us think carefully about what we include in our programmes.

CONTENT OF THIS RESOURCE:

I. **Building Blocks** –

this is a list of possible sessions on Scripture engagement grouped under five major headings. What do you want every staff, every student leader, every student to learn and experience? What does this mean for the specific event you are currently preparing?

PAGE
4

II. **Concrete Examples** –

these programme overviews from around the IFES world show how different movements have chosen to address Scripture engagement. We hope that they can inspire you as you develop your own programmes.

PAGE
9

III. **The Word Among Us** –

this section presents ideas on how this IFES booklet can be used in training events.

PAGE
16

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND:

_The Word itself has the power to form us. Giving space to God's Word among us is at the heart of any training in Scripture engagement.

_Scripture engagement formación is more than training in Bible study methods.

_Whenever an event focuses on one specific aspect of Scripture engagement, it is helpful to show how it fits into the wider vision of Scripture engagement. The themes listed in this resource do not stand in isolation, but are connected. Communicating these connections helps paint the big picture.

_Less is more. If our programmes are too full, they will not be effective. In order to learn well, we need time for informal interaction and personal reflection.

_We want to be learning together, not just listening to experts. For this to happen, we need interactive and communal forms of learning in our programmes which enable the participants to contribute from their experience and knowledge.

_Each training event is part of a larger journey – therefore we want to help participants enter into an ongoing process of transformation. Preparation work and follow-up can contribute to this.

_Our aim is not simply to pass on knowledge; it is to see students and staff loving, studying, living and sharing God's Word in such a way that "Christ is formed in them." (cf. Gal. 4:19)

You can find further materials at www.scriptureengagement.ifesworld.org. This website includes a downloadable version (PDF) of the booklet *The Word Among Us*, suggestions for running sessions on a number of the topics mentioned in this paper, as well as many testimonies and ideas around Scripture engagement in student ministry.

May this resource help us make space for the Word to impact our lives and student movements more deeply!

The IFES Scripture engagement team

Sabine Kalthoff (Germany), IFES Secretary for Scripture Engagement

Annette Arulrajah (Malaysia), IFES Associate Regional Secretary for East Asia

Mukululi Ncube (Zimbabwe), staff worker of FOCUS Zimbabwe

Ricardo Borges (Brazil), IFES Associate Regional Secretary for Latin America

PART I

BUILDING BLOCKS

How can you use the following list of possible sessions on Scripture engagement? Please do not try and include everything in your programme. Please do not just choose one aspect and think that is all you need.

As you prayerfully read through this list, reflect on what is currently needed by your staff and students. And remain flexible in your programmes – with an openness to review them from time to time. We hope that this section will inspire you to think carefully and deeply about the content and aim of Scripture engagement formación in your student movement.

I. BEING SHAPED BY GOD'S WORD

Let's not only talk about the importance of being formed by God's Word, but include a significant amount of time listening and responding to God's Word in our programmes. What we model in terms of Scripture engagement is as important as what we teach about it.

_Personal reflection time: Including time for prayerful processing of the Word creates space for God to impress his Word upon us and for us to give a response to him. It helps participants root themselves deeply in God's Word. It is worth giving participants a time of silence after they have listened to a Bible exposition or including a longer silent retreat in the programme.

_Small group Bible study: Studying and sharing around the Word allows us to learn from one another and journey together. Through the community, we discover more, can grapple with our questions and relate Scripture to our life experiences.

_Bible exposition: Expositions grow our understanding of God's Word and have the potential to touch our hearts deeply as God's truth is spoken to us. Listening to God and his Word in a communal setting draws us together as a fellowship around the centre of our faith.

_Creative elements: Artistic ways of communicating help us to hear and embrace God's Word more fully e.g. dramatic reading of Scripture; reflections on pieces of art; dance; drama; songs and much more.

II. LOVING THE WORD

We cannot assume that our staff or students already have healthy foundations for Scripture engagement. These sessions focus on what is largely invisible, but essential: our understanding of and attitude towards Scripture and God. The aim of these sessions is to grow a strong and appealing vision for Scripture engagement.

_What is Scripture engagement? The aim of this session is not to come up with an abstract definition, but really to think about what it means to “engage” with God’s Word and have it engage with us. This includes clarifying our understanding of Scripture engagement so that it is deep, broad and relational.

_The place of Scripture engagement in the Living Stones Vision: How does Scripture engagement fit into the overall vision and mission of IFES? What does it mean that Scripture engagement is one of our core commitments “which is to surround and support every aspect of IFES life”? (You can read more at www.ifesworld.org/vision.)

_Convictions about Scripture: What is the nature and purpose of Scripture? Why can Scripture be trusted? Our basic beliefs about Scripture are rarely talked about, but they influence how we understand, live out and share God’s Word.

_Motivation: What draws us towards God’s Word? What keeps us away from it? How can we grow love and joy towards Scripture? It is helpful to create a culture of honesty around this topic so that we do not hide from God and from one another behind religious masks.

_Posture: How do we come to God’s Word? With what attitude of heart? This session can help us think about how we want to approach God’s Word and how we can cultivate these attitudes in our practises of Scripture engagement (e.g. openness, listening, a willing response, a desire to meet God etc.)

III. BUILDING COMPETENCES

Our staff and students need to learn in very concrete ways how to engage with God's Word. This includes providing a general framework of good principles and teaching specific methods/skills in Scripture engagement. The aim is to help participants interact well with God's Word themselves and grow in their competence to serve others in this area.

_Hermeneutics: How are we teaching basic principles on how to read and interpret the Bible? This will mean touching on topics such as: reading texts in their biblical and historical context, taking into account the literary genre of biblical texts, building bridges between Scripture and our lives today, reflecting on the lenses we use to read the text etc. Our principles of interpretation need to include an attitude of submission to God's Word – a willingness to answer in obedience.

_Scripture as narrative: The Bible tells God's story with our world. Staff and students need to develop an understanding of the whole story. What are key events in this story? What characterizes this story? What is our place in the story? How do we read and understand individual Bible passages in light of the whole story?

_Personal time in God's Word: How can we help our people to grow good habits of spending time with the Lord in his Word? Often students and staff need communal encouragement, some guidance and possible tools in how to start and live a personal pilgrimage with Scripture.

_Bible exposition: How can we teach Scripture in a way which is faithful to its message and relevant to the hearers today? There is a need for sound biblical teaching in our movements and the wider church. Equipping staff and students to articulate well the message of Scripture will strengthen the body of Christ.

_Methods for small group Bible study: How are we preparing every new generation to lead communal studies in God's Word? It is helpful to teach both basic principles and specific methods so that our Bible study leaders do not use only one particular method, but become competent in using a variety of good Bible study methods. Some commonly used formats in IFES are inductive Bible study, manuscript Bible study, the Swedish method as well as a number of creative approaches. As we teach leaders to work well with different methods, we want them also to understand that they are tools to help us meet our Lord in Scripture. (You can find a paper presenting different small group Bible study methods and elements at www.scriptureengagement.ifesworld.org/materials.)

_Leading a small group Bible study: Sometimes our leaders have a good grasp of the theory of small group Bible studies, but struggle to deal with real life situations. Dealing with group dynamics of communication and different personalities can be very challenging. How can we help them lead a group journey around the Scriptures well?

_Running an evangelistic Bible study: In the context of our ministry as IFES, this is a crucial aspect of Scripture engagement. We always want to be helping staff and students grow in their competence on how to study the Bible with non-Christians. How are we equipping them to do so? The message of salvation is for all.

_Creative approaches to Scripture: The use of art, music, drama, imagination and creativity can help us to hear and receive Scripture. How are we teaching our staff and students to explore a variety of arts in the way they engage with Scripture? This includes taking into account how this generation of students engages with the reality around them and how this might be used for Scripture engagement.

IV. LIVING OUT AND SHARING THE WORD

We want leaders who are shaped by Scripture in their lives and mission. Our aim is not to form 'experts' in the Bible who only develop a rational kind of knowledge (which could even lead to pride). Rather we seek to be transformed by Jesus through his Word in such a way that it shows in our lifestyle. As we give an answer of trust, praise and obedience to the Word, we will experience its fruit in our lives. This will include a desire to share the Word in mission.

_A lifestyle shaped by Scripture: Engaging with God's Word invites and challenges us to experience transformation. How can we help staff and students experience the full redemptive power of the Gospel which affects the whole of our lives? Issues of integrity and the willingness to respond to God's Word in practical obedience are essential. They should find time and space in our programmes.

_Scripture in evangelism: What gives us confidence and courage in inviting non-believers to interact with God's Word? What do non-Christian friends think about the Bible? In this session, it is worth thinking about the power of the Word, our struggles in sharing it as well as the obstacles which prevent our friends from interacting with it. How can we help remove these obstacles, opening up space for them to have a first-hand encounter with Jesus in the Word? What can help us live and share this message in our context of mission?

_Developing a biblical approach to contemporary issues: How can we help students and staff see how God's Word speaks redemptively to all areas of life? In order to understand the challenging agenda that the Bible presents to each culture and context, we need to grapple with our reality in light of the whole of Scripture. This will involve both showing a biblical approach to certain issues as well as teaching participants how to develop such an approach themselves.

V. REFLECTING ON OUR EXPERIENCES

It is helpful to look at Scripture engagement in the context of our journeys: to stop, evaluate, reflect and renew. Both personally, and in our groups and movements. The aim of these sessions is to facilitate an ongoing learning process. More than that, we want to create space for God to stir us in areas where we need to hear his voice.

_Preparation: Asking participants to start reflecting on Scripture engagement beforehand will allow us to go much deeper during the time spent together at the event. It is helpful to give very specific questions and/or tasks in preparation and to integrate the work done into the programme.

_The Bible in my life: This session gives participants the space to think about their personal journey with God's Word – remembering past experience is a powerful way of seeing how God has been at work in our life. As we reflect on our journeys, we will see more clearly for the future and can also encourage others on their journey with God's Word.

_Opportunities and challenges: Let's take the time to look at what characterizes this generation of students – both Christian students and non-believers. What trends (opportunities and challenges) do we see in this generation of students with regard to engaging with God's Word?

_Listening well: When God's Word is taught, both the speaker and the hearers are actively involved. How do we teach students to listen well – to prepare their hearts, to discern the truth in light of the Word, to discuss with one another what they are hearing, etc.?

_Relooking at our methods: Which approaches and methods shape our Scripture engagement? It is worth taking some time to identify the strengths and weaknesses of each one. And to ask which old and new methods build bridges into God's Word for the students of today.

_The big picture: It is worth looking at all of the different ways in which we are interacting with God's Word. How do personal Bible reading, small group Bible studies and biblical teaching complement one another? In which of these areas is our group or movement weakest? Which steps can we take to grow in this area?

_Harvest time: Before the end of the programme, participants should be given a time of silence to reflect on their experience – how God spoke to them personally, what they learned and what results from this for their life and ministry in concrete next steps. This processing time is crucial for long-term impact.

_Follow-Up: When planning a programme, it is good to always think about how to follow-up with the participants. We want our trainings to be part of an ongoing learning process, not just isolated events.

PART II

SOME CONCRETE EXAMPLES

As you can see from the following examples, there are many different formats for Scripture engagement formación. We have included some examples from around the IFES world in this resource as a way of learning from one another – they can inspire us, help us think beyond our own way of doing things and encourage us to make changes in our programmes. These examples are not given to be copied in detail, but to help you develop training formats which resonate with your context.

You will find further examples in the resource Scripture engagement at our events, available from www.scriptureengagement.ifesworld.org/materials. It does not focus specifically on training programmes, but gives some examples of how IFES movements engage with God's Word at their various camps and conferences.

SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT STAFF WORKSHOP, APRIL 2016 IN KOREA

Participants:

senior and junior staff – around 35 in total

Highlights:

- _experiencing the Word together in community and interactively;
- _strengthening skills in facilitating interaction during Bible studies;
- _reflecting on our own journey with the Word and becoming more sensitive to the journey of others with the Word and the Lord.

If you want to hear more:

Contact Annette Arulrajah, anet195@yahoo.com.

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
9:00-10:30		Bible exposition with interactive elements	Bible exposition with interactive elements	Reflection time: what do I take from here?
		Break	Break	Break
11:00-12:30		Postures in Embracing the Word I	Postures in Embracing the Word II	Closing session: prayer, Lord's Supper, sermon
3:30-5:30	3 pm Welcome 3:30-5:30 A vision for Scripture engagement	3:30-5:30 Basics of Hermeneutics	3:30-5:30 Leading Evangelistic Bible studies	
7:30-9:30	Our Journey with God's Word	Leading Bible studies I	Leading Bible studies II	

SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT TRAINING FOR STAFF AND STUDENT LEADERS, FEBRUARY 2014 IN CAMEROON

Participants:

staff and student leaders – 40-50 in total

Highlights:

- _ focussing on convictions and motivation with regard to God's Word; working together on naming, explaining and clarifying our beliefs;
- _ participants started to rethink their view of Scripture and with what expectations they come to the Word – a motivating process for many.

If you want to hear more:

Contact Sabine Kalthoff, sabine.kalthoff@ifesworld.org.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
	8:30-10:00 Interactive Plenary Bible Study	8:30-9:30 Biblical Devotion
10:00-10:30 Welcome		9:30-10:15 Sharing Scripture engagement ideas and stories from the IFES world
10:30-12:00 Bible exposition with reflection on how it was done	10:30-12:30 Our Motivation in Scripture engagement	10:15-12:15 Reflection on this training and next steps
12:30-13:00 Introduction to Scripture engagement		
15:00-16:30 The Bible in my Life	15:00-19:00 Two different tracks: _ Evangelistic Bible Study (or) _ Bible exposition	
16:45-19:00 Convictions in Scripture engagement		

SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT CONSULTATION FOR CENTRAL AMERICA, JULY 2014 IN NICARAGUA

Participants:

one staff and one student from every country – 22 in total (with one participant from the Caribbean IFES region)

Highlights:

_reconsidering our understanding of Scripture engagement with a special focus on the context of our relationship with God and our lifestyle in this world;
_learning and encouragement through listening to best practises from other countries with presentations that had been well prepared beforehand.

If you want to hear more:

Contact Ana Miriam Peralta, anamiriam@compa.mx.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
	9:00 Worship and Bible exposition	9:00 The Way Forward: reflection alone and in country delegations.
	10:30 Motivation and Attitude towards Scripture engagement	11:00 Closing Service including prayer for each country delegation.
15:30 Worship/Welcome	15:30 Scripture in Evangelism – sharing of best practises	
16:15 Introduction to Scripture engagement		
17:30-19:00 Living in the Word		
20:00-22:00 Living in the Word	19:30 Discovering opportunities – sharing of best practises	

SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT CONSULTATION FOR EAST ASIA, AUGUST 2012 IN THAILAND

THEME: RENOVARE – “TO BE RENEWED”, “TO RESTORE”

Participants:

two staff from every country in the region – 35 in total

Highlights:

- _reviewing Scripture engagement in the region, taking into account a holistic consideration of cultural, generational and personal styles;
- _reviewing and renewing how we engage with God’s Word in small groups, in large group meetings and in our personal time with the Word;
- _reviewing the inductive approach, seeing how the process can be re-adapted into our current situation.

If you want to hear more:

Contact Annette Arulrajah, anet195@yahoo.com.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
	9:00-10:30 Culture and its impact on Scripture engagement	9:00-10:30 Personal Learning Styles and its impact on Scripture engagement	Worship- ping at local churches	9:00-10:30 Christian subculture and its impact on Scripture engagement	9:00-12:45 Relooking at Scripture engagement in small group Bible studies	9:00-12:45 New chapters to be written... Bible expo- sition and closure
	10:45-12:45 Post- modernism and its impact on Scripture engagement	10:45-12:45 Letting Scrip- tures Speak		Societal pressures and their impact on Scripture engagement		
Arrival	15:30-17:30 Idea Box: Scripture engagement ideas from around the IFES world	15:30-17:30 Idea Box: sharing best practices from East Asia	Outing	15:30-17:30 Idea Box: sharing best practices from East Asia	15:30-17:30 Relooking at the inductive approach	
20:00-22:00 Bible Exposition	20:00-22:00 Relooking at Scripture engagement in large group meetings	20:00-22:00 Relooking at Scripture engagement in large group meetings	Time to interact with students from the local movement	20:00-22:00 Relooking at Scripture engagement in our own personal time	20:00-22:00 Personal and group consoli- dation time	

SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT CONSULTATION FOR EURASIA, MARCH 2014

Participants:

27 people; two or more participants from every country of the region

Highlights:

Each national delegation wrote a report (based on a questionnaire); these reports were circulated to all participants before the consultation; during the consultation, each delegation briefly presented some main aspects of their report.

Two things became particularly clear through this consultation:

_the participants had knowledge and skills, but their motivation was not consistent because of weak convictions;

_expositional preaching was identified as the weakest area of Scripture engagement in the region.

If you want to hear more:

Contact Olena Welch, olenawelch@gmail.com.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Sunday service at local church and city tour	9:00-10:30 Bible Study	9:00-10:30 Bible Study	9:00-10:30 Bible Study	9:00-10:30 Bible study
	10:45-11:15 Scripture in my Life	10:45-11:15 National movement presentations	10:45-11:15 National movement presentations	10:45-11:15 National movement presentations
	11:15-13:30 Motivation in Scripture engagement	11:15-13:30 Convictions in Scripture engagement	11:15-13:30 Scripture engagement in Evangelism	11:15-13:30 Reflecting on: Small group Bible study
Rest	15:30-16:30 Sharing Best Practices and Testimonies	15:30-16:30 Sharing Best Practices and Testimonies	15:30-16:30 Preparing Bible expositions	15:30-16:30 What's next: reflecting personally
	17:00-19:00 Work groups: challenges and opportunities	17:00-19:00 Work groups: challenges and opportunities	17:00-19:00 Preparing Bible expositions	17:00-19:00 What's next: reflecting as national delegations
20:00-21:00 Scripture engagement in the Living Stones Vision	20:00-21:00 Looking at the big picture of Scripture engagement in our national movements	Free	20:00-21:00 Reflecting on: Personal Bible reading	20:00-21:00 Closing session: testimonies, prayer, celebration
Dreaming for the future of Scripture engagement				

SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP/CONSULTATION, NIGERIA, MAY 2015

THEME: WHERE SCRIPTURE AND LIFE MEET

Participants:

student leaders and staff, around 100 participants

Highlights:

_the leaders of the programme worked as an intercultural team (from three continents);
_the small group project helped participants reflect and work together on how the Scriptures connect to the realities of their context.

If you want to hear more:

Contact Sabine Kalthoff, sabine.kalthoff@ifesworld.org.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
	Day's Theme: Convictions/ Attitude	Day's Theme: Hermeneutics	Day's Theme: Living God's Word	Day's Theme: Contextualiza- tion	Day's Theme: Change
	8:30-9:00 Bible Exposition: Psalm 19	8:30-12:30 Inductive Bible Study: Luke 24:13-35	8:30-9:00 Bible Exposition: 1 Peter 1:22- 2:12	8:30-9:00 Bible Exposition: 1 Cor. 8:1-13	8:30-9:00 Bible Exposition: John 15:1-17
	10:30-12:00 Small groups	(including study in small groups)	10:30-12:00 Small groups: stories on living out Scripture in a student context	10:30-12:00 Example of a biblical response to a contextual question Introduction to small group project	10:30-12:30 Seeking Change in our Lives and Context: per- sonal reflection time
	12:00-12:30 Introduction to Scripture engagement				
	12:30-13:00 Corporate Prayer	12:30-13:00 Corporate Prayer	12:30-13:00 Corporate Prayer	12:30-13:00 Corporate Prayer	12:30-13:00 Corporate Prayer
	15:30-18:00 Convictions about Scripture	15:00-17:00 Principles of Interpreta- tion I	15:00-17:00 Integrity in Word and Deed	15:30-18:00 Small Group Project	15:00-18:00 Reflection time in small groups - next steps
	Sports	Sports	Sports		Sports
19:30-21:00 Welcome + contextual living of God's Word	19:30-20:30 Motivation in Scripture Engagement	19:30-20:30 Principles of Interpretation II - contextual examples	19:30-20:30 IFES Testimo- nies: How the Word is Being Lived Out	19:30-20:30 Small Group Project closure in plenary	19:30 Closing session: The Way Forward (including celebration of Lord's Supper
	20:30-21:00 Reflection and prayer partners	20:30-21:00 Reflection and prayer partners	20:30-21:00 Reflection and prayer partners	20:30-21:00 Reflection and prayer partners	

**EFO – LATIN AMERICAN FORMACIÓN FOR YOUNG STAFF,
VENEZUELA, JUNE 2013**

THEME: THE FOOD AT THE TABLE

Participants:

young staff from across Latin America, 34 participants

Highlights:

_the whole of this first week (of a four-week programme) focused on the Word;
_different approaches were used to spend time in the Word (personal time, small groups, Bible exposition, silent reflection, interaction with the speaker).

If you want to hear more:

Contact Ricardo Borges, Ricardo.Borges@ifesworld.org.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
	8:30-10:15 Worship + Bible exposition	8:30-10:15 Worship + Bible exposition	8:30-10:15 Worship + Bible exposition	8:30-10:15 Worship + Bible exposition	8:30-10:15 Worship + Bible exposition	8:30-10:15 Worship + Bible exposition
	10:15-11:00 Silent Reflection	10:15-11:00 Silent Reflection	10:30-15:45 Silent retreat	10:15-11:00 Silent Reflection	10:15-11:00 Silent Reflection	10:15-11:00 Silent Reflection
	11:30-12:15 Small groups	11:30-12:15 Small groups		11:30-12:15 Small groups	11:30-13:00 Celebration of the Lord's Supper	11:30-12:15 Small groups
	12:15-13:00 Plenary conversation	12:15-13:00 Plenary conversation		12:15-13:00 Plenary conversation		12:15-13:00 Plenary conversation
	15:00-18:00 Workshop: Loving the Word	15:00-18:00 Workshop: Understand- ing the Word	15:45-16:00 Small groups 17:00-18:00 Workshop: Eating the Word	15:00-18:00 Workshop: introduction to expository preaching I	15:00-18:00 Workshop: introduction to expository preaching II	Free
Opening	In homes	The Bible in my life: a testimony	In homes	In homes	fellowship	Free

PART III

USING **THE WORD AMONG US**

IN FORMACIÓN PROGRAMMES

The “Word Among Us” is an invitation! This IFES booklet is an invitation to locate where we are with regard to the God who is speaking through his Word. It is an invitation to discern where we are on our journey so far and to be led into a time of celebrating together, wrestling together, planning together so that Scripture will have a greater impact on our lives.

The booklet has two distinct parts which can be used independently of one another. It is also possible to combine them thematically since there is some overlap between each core aspect in the first part and each area of reflection in the second part:

**Part I:
Cultivating a Clear Vision of Scripture
Engagement**

Deepening our convictions about the nature and purpose of Scripture

Cultivating an attitude of love, expectant listening and obedience to God’s Word

Modelling a lifestyle of Scripture engagement

Trusting the impact of God’s Word in evangelism

Nurturing good practices in Scripture engagement

Addressing the challenges of our world biblically

**Part II:
Reflecting on the Impact of Scripture
Among Us**

The heart of the matter: encounters which transform us

The unseen: stirring up appetite

Daily reality: embracing the Word

Powerful Word: opening Doors to Jesus

Living formats: creating space for the Word

Amidst changes: the Word for today

This booklet can be used in local student groups and staff meetings. It can also be used to help prepare and shape formación programmes – some ideas as to how this is possible are developed below. Please also look at the suggestions given in the booklet itself on how it can be used (see pages 11, 37, 41, 55). And be creative in developing your own ideas as to how this booklet might serve you well!

IN PREPARATION

_Ask all participants to read through the whole booklet beforehand with a few general reflection questions, e.g. How does this booklet help you identify one area of strength and one area of weakness in your student group/movement? Or: What aspects of this booklet connect with your own experience of Scripture engagement?

_Ask all participants to look specifically at one topic e.g. to reflect on one core aspect or work through one set of reflection questions;

_Some suggested activities can help prepare for a specific session e.g. asking participants to do interviews with non-Christians (as suggested on pg 27) and then talk about the results in a session on Scripture and evangelism;

_You can ask different people (individuals or small teams) to prepare and then lead a session on one topic each. The sessions should be led in an interactive way so that they the whole group reflects together on this aspect of Scripture engagement.

DURING THE EVENT

_The whole formación can be structured along the themes of the booklet;

_One session can serve to introduce everyone to the vision of Scripture engagement presented in the booklet. This could be the start into a workshop day, during which different groups work on one section of the booklet each.

_One or two themes of the booklet can be integrated in the programme – as plenary sessions or workshops;

_Individual reflection questions can be useful tools in diverse sessions of the programme;

_A training session on how to work with this booklet locally in student groups can help students use this booklet well.

AFTER THE EVENT

_This booklet can help participants to reflect on next steps after a training event. You can, for example, ask them to read through the six core aspects and decide in which one they want to grow personally/grow others and what first steps they can take;

_You can encourage participants to do one of the activities suggested in the first part of the booklet – as a way of going deeper in some areas of Scripture engagement.