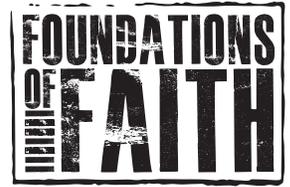


The Word of God



What is the Bible?

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. What do these verses say about the Scriptures (the Bible)? _____

What do you believe about the Bible? _____

God speaks to us in a variety of ways. Yet every potential truth about God and the world is subject to the authority of the Bible. The Bible was written over a 1500 year span by over forty authors in three languages. It records over 1000 references to fulfilled prophecies and an eyewitness account of a supernatural miracle of God in most of its 66 books. The Bible is regarded as the most reliable text of any piece of literature ever. It has been translated into more languages than any other book. And for 2000 years countless lives have been transformed by its message. The Bible is God's Word to us. He said perfectly what He wanted to say through imperfect people. He speaks to us through His Word today.

How to Study the Bible

Once a new believer understands the basic lessons of faith, we should immediately teach them the most important factor in training a small group: "The Simple and Lasting Guide to Bible Study." This will not only enable them to sustain their own personal Bible Study, but it will also give them the capability of leading Bible Study group and allowing those in the Bible Study group to do the same. In reality, there are no spiritual or Bible Study guides that can replace God's word. A person can only receive God's teaching and power directly from His word. In this way, God teaches us to trust and obey His word. This is why we need to ask the light of the Holy Spirit to shine upon us and to guide us in spiritual growth.

Below are three important questions (SOS) we must bear in mind each time we study the Bible:

1. What does the passage say?

- a. What is the main point of this scripture?
- b. What does it say about God?
- c. What are some problems or probabilities (things we can expect) that we can learn from this scripture?

2. What do you need to obey?

- a. What is one thing after reading and discussing these scriptures, God is speaking to you to do this week?
- b. How will these scriptures change your plans this week?

3. Who is one person who you need to share these scriptures with this week?

Obeying the Bible

Story (Matthew 7:24-29)

[Jesus often taught people how to live God's way. One day a large crowd was listening. Jesus said, "Everyone who hears my words and practices them is like a wise man who built his house on a rock. When it rained, the streams flooded, and the wind blew hard against the house, but the house did not fall. It remained standing because its foundation had been built on the rock. But everyone who hears my words and does not do them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. When it rained, the streams flooded, the wind blew hard against the house and the house fell down. It fell with a great crash.]