

The Word (The Authority of the Bible)

Discipleship is a Relationship

1. With God
2. With Family
3. With the Church
4. With the Lost

Suggested Memory Verses

John 12:48
 2 Timothy 3:16-17
 Hebrews 4:12-13
 2 Peter 1:20-21

Purpose: To show what the Bible has to say about its authority

I. II TIMOTHY 3:16-17; 4:1-4

- A. God inspired and wrote all scripture. (v.16)
- B. The Bible is used for teaching, correcting, rebuking and training people how to be righteous (having the right relationship with God). (v.16)
- C. Stick to the Word. (vs. 1, 2 & 4)
- D. The reason to use the Word as our standard is that people will try to avoid the truth and will look for teachers who will tell them what they want to hear. This is the reason for so many different denominations. (vs. 3, 4 & 5)

II. II PETER 1:16-21

- A. Peter did not make up the things he wrote. He was an eye-witness.
- B. The Bible is not man-made. God used men to record what He wanted to communicate to us.
- C. The Bible cannot be dismissed as a collection of historical writings because it was written with the authority of God our Creator. (v. 21)

III. HEBREWS 4:12-13

- A. The Word is alive and applies to our lives today
- B. The Word convicts us and tells us what is really right and wrong (judges us) about the things in our hearts and minds which we believe. Reading the Bible will cause us to feel cut if we are wrong because it is precise and powerful like a sword.
- C. Everything about us is obvious to God.

IV. MATTHEW 24: 35

- A. God's Word will not change or pass away.
- B. Truth is truth whether we accept it or not. It is eternal.

V. JAMES 1:18-25

- A. We must obey the Word. We are deceived if we are not living by the Word, even if we know the Bible. (v. 22)
- B. The Word is the perfect law of liberty to set us free. (v. 23-25)

VI. JOHN 12:44-50

- A. The standard of judgment is the Word of God. (v. 48)
- B. Jesus spoke the Word (Truth) by God's authority. (v. 49)
- C. We must be prepared for judgment by learning and obeying the Word.
- D. We condemn ourselves if we reject God's Word. We are all judged by the same standard.

(The Word Continued)

VII. Major Points About the Word.

- A. God is the Author of the scriptures.
- B. The Word is complete and alive, and is able to challenge and change us if we allow it to.
- C. The Word is perfect and eternal.
- D. We must obey the Word.
- E. God's Word is our standard of judgment.

QUESTIONS:

1. Do you know God's Word and exactly how we will be judged?
2. Do you accept the Word as your only authority for life?
3. What basis is there for any other authority?
4. Has the truth set you free from sin?
5. What things in the Word are hard for you to obey?
6. Do you really believe the Word and are you ready to do what the Bible says?
7. Are you going to use the Bible as your only standard for truth, regardless of feelings or traditions?

OTHER SCRIPTURES:

1 TIMOTHY 4:16	Life and Doctrine
JOHN 4:24	Worship in Spirit and Truth.
MARK 7:1-13	Traditions versus Truth
2 PETER 3:15-16	Paul wrote inspired scripture. (Men try to twist it)
1 TIMOTHY 1:8-11	The Word is for everyone.
REVELATION 22:18	Don't subtract or add to the Word.
PROVERBS 30:6	Don't subtract or add to the Word.
ACTS 17:11	Search the scriptures.
GALATIANS 1:6-10	No other gospel
EPHESIANS 3:3-5	We can understand the Word.

CHALLENGE:

1. Read and study the Bible every day.
2. Are you willing to be challenged by the Word of God?