

Basic Doctrines of the Bible

These study notes have been prepared to help a person better understand the basic teachings of the Bible. It is especially important that those seeking membership in this local assembly of believers should be familiar with the basic doctrines that are taught by this Church, and to see that these teachings are based upon the plain and simple teaching of the Bible.

This study is arranged in 17 sections and those 17 sections correspond with the 17 sections of the Statement of Faith found in the Constitution of the Middletown Bible Church. Sometimes people can quickly read through a statement of faith without really understanding what they read. These worksheets enable a person to work through the doctrinal statement in an interesting way and to find answers to important questions by going directly to the Scriptures. It is not enough to say, "This is what this Church believes!" or "This is what my Pastor teaches!" Having done these worksheets a person should be able to say, "Not only does this Church believe these things and not only does my Pastor teach these things, **but I believe these doctrines because I have seen for myself that this is really what the Bible teaches!**" Compare Acts 17:11.

Often when the teachings of the Bible are discussed, people will say, "...but that's just your interpretation" as if everyone can interpret the Bible differently. Doing these worksheets will demonstrate that this is not the case at all. You will soon discover that there is only one correct answer for each of the questions that you are about to do! These worksheets force a person to write down exactly what God says in His Word! It's tragic that many people do not feel that God has really spoken or that we can know exactly what He has said. This is not so. This Bible is very clear.

It is also hoped that these worksheets will demonstrate that it is not difficult to understand what God has said in the Bible. Most of these questions are very simple and straightforward. You don't have to be a brilliant scholar to understand the life-changing message of the Bible. It can even be understood by young children.

The answer to each of the questions on these pages is found by looking up each Bible verse which is given (please use a King James Bible). ***Even if you think you know the answer, it is important that you look at the Bible reference anyway.*** It is important for you to see the answer in the text of the Bible. Believers need to be able to say, "*I know so because God said so!*" When you have completed all the questions you should have a basic understanding of what the Bible teaches on these basic doctrinal matters.

May the words of Paul to Timothy encourage you as you enter this study: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Section 1–The Holy Scriptures

- 1, The Lord Jesus said that God's Word (the Bible) is _____ (John 17:17).
2. The Lord Jesus also said that the Scripture cannot _____ (John 10:35) and that the Scriptures must be _____ (Mark 14:49).
3. WHO moved (carried along) the Bible writers (such as Moses and Isaiah and David and Luke and Paul) in such a way that the words they wrote were accurate, without mistakes, without errors and exactly the words God wanted them to write (2 Peter 1:21 and compare 2 Samuel 23:1-2)? _____
4. The Lord Jesus said that the Scripture **must** be _____ (Luke 24:44), even every _____ and _____ Matthew 5:18).

Note: A "jot and "tittle" would be like the small marks that we use in English to dot an "i" or to cross a "t". In God's Word every book, every chapter, every paragraph, every sentence, every word and even the very letters themselves are inspired by God! It's not just the "thought" that is inspired, but the very words and letters themselves!

5. Please match the following:

The Word of God is...

1. _____ settled in heaven.	A. 2 Timothy 3:16
2. _____ eternal.	B. Psalm 138:2
3. _____ Christ-centered.	C. Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 24:35
4. _____ inspired (God-breathed).	D. Psalm 119:89
5. _____ magnified above God's Name.	E. Luke 24:27, 44

6. We know that the books of the Bible were written by men, but is the Bible just the Word of men or is it more than that? What did the believers in Thessalonica do that made Paul so thankful (see I Thessalonians 2:13)?

7. Psalm 138:2. If we as believers are very careful about honoring God's Name (Exodus 20:7), should we also be very careful about how we treat and handle God's Word (compare 2 Corinthians 4:2)? YES NO

8. 2 Timothy 3:16. How much of God's Word is INSPIRED OF GOD (literally "God-breathed", that is, spoken from the very mouth of God)? _____ God's Word stands for how long (Isaiah 40:8; Psalm 119:89)? _____

9. How do we know that God's Word is true and that God will never break His promises (Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18)?

10. Many people do not believe what the Bible says, especially concerning some of the great miracles that are found on the pages of Holy Scripture. Let's see if the Lord Jesus Christ believed that these miracles really took place: (Please MATCH)

1. _____ Creation (Adam and Eve)	A. Matthew 11:23-24
2. _____ The Great Flood (Noah)	B. Matthew 12:40-41
3. _____ Jonah in the sea creature	C. Matthew 19:4-5
4. _____ Destruction of Sodom	D. Luke 17:27

11. 2 Peter 3:15-16. Was the Apostle Peter familiar with the writings of Paul? _____ Did Peter believe that Paul was "given wisdom" (verse 15) to write these letters? _____ Did Peter find it easy to understand everything Paul wrote (verse 16)? _____ Did Peter consider Paul's writings to be Scripture (verse 16)? _____

12. TRUE or FALSE The spiritual person recognizes that the things which Paul wrote were his own uninspired opinions, and therefore we are not obligated to believe and follow the teachings of Paul. SEE 1 CORINTHIANS 14:37.

The Bible is God's Word. When a person turns to God and trusts in who God is and what God has said, that person begins to realize that God has said what He means and God means what He has said!