

"This is God's Word."

Pentecost 7

1)

2 Timothy 3:10-4:5

2)

July 11, 2021

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory now and forever. Amen. ()

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Do you agree or not agree? This is God's word. When gathered together with fellow Believers in God's house, it's fairly safe to say that most would agree with me on that statement. What happens when you step out of here and head home for the rest of your week? How about your friends? How about your family? Do they feel the same way as you do? Do they think the same way as you do? They hold the same beliefs as you. After all there are many denominations in the world around us, there are many who do not call themselves Christian and do not believe in Jesus as their savior from sin. One of the common things that happens is when our children go off to college, They hear many, many views that you and the workforce happened to here on an everyday and daily basis. When you think about the world view of what the Bible is, and what the Bible isn't, you're going to get many mixed opinions but to Simply say, this is God's word.

You tell me why is it refreshing? It is a refreshing because, you know that you have a solid foundation on which to stand That, you know, that this comes directly from the source, the one, who ultimately on the last day is going to say, yes, I will let you into my heaven.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ. When we think about God's word, we know it as the only source of our joy and salvation. We know that indeed tells us not only about our sinfulness, but about the Forgiveness of all of our sins through Jesus. But many. When they think about the Bible, sadly, do not consider it to be God's word.

Why do we want to think about – the Bible being God's word. Why is it important for you? And for me, that's what I would like to study with you here today, when we think about our reading, from 2nd Timothy, into chapters 3, & 4 here today, Now, why is it important? The studies and statistics have shown year-over-year for the last 30 40 years that trend has continued to go

down for those who would agree with that statement to Simply say that this is literally the word of God.

The poll was taken in 2018 but it said, only 24% would agree with that statement. Twenty-six percent would say that the Bible is the inspired word of God. Now that to me is a little bit of a head-scratcher. Because when we think about the very definition of what the Bible is, we say that the Bible is the very inspired word of God. We'll talk about that in a minute. What does it mean? When the Bible says that scripture is god-breathed all scripture is god-breathed, But sadly, that large majority. And in even larger majority simply thinks that the Bible is filled with stories and fables. And that number is rapidly growing.

So why is it important for us to know to believe and trust on this Firm Foundation? That this is the very word of God. Direct from God himself. Well, take a look at verse 16 of our lesson here where it tells us the very thing of all scripture is god-breathed. We think about God's word, the Bible is not being man's interpretation or some made-up or conjured up stories. But rather, a direct Revelation from God himself to the very writers of the Bible. They took down and wrote down the exact words that God wanted them to write. So, We would have a Living Testament or testimony about who God is and what he's done to save us We look at the world around us and we can see that there is a God We can see in the beautiful creation around us how all these things came into being into existence, but only the Bible. Can tell us that Jesus is our savior from sin. So why is it important for us to know that this is God's word?

The very first thing that we want to remember here tonight is that **God's word is what makes us alive**. Now, if you've ever gone through CPR training you know that it's an opportunity to learn of how to put air or respire into someone else and give them a breath of life. To keep that accident flowing, through them to keep their brain functioning So that they can continue to live. But what does it mean when God breathes into something? It's not quite like CPR but it's somewhat similar if we want to think about it that way. But it's like I said before that, God spoke to the writers and gave them the exact words that he wanted them to write down. The very fact that God makes us alive and God's word Is What

Makes Us Alive is? So very important for us to understand and comprehend. The Bible tells us and written by the Apostle Paul says that we were **dead in our transgressions and sins**. In other words, we did not have life in us. We couldn't come to faith on our own. We couldn't believe in our Lord Jesus Christ without someone intervening.

And ultimately that's what God did. God sent his one and only son Jesus to take away our every sin, that aspect of being dead in our transgressions and Sins. Not being able to get to heaven on her own Is the state and condition in which every single person on the face of the Earth. And then what makes us alive?

Having that word of God spoken to us. Being brought to the waters of baptism and being marked as a dearly loved and redeemed. Child of God. When you thinking about the ways in which God's work works, this is the way that not Us Alive, through his word. He sends the Holy Spirit into our hearts, to believe. The very thing that he's done. That he sent his one and only son Jesus, to be our savior from sin.

Now, we think and we know and we believe in trust that, right? This is God's word. It's an actual fact. It happened when Jesus died on the cross and said it is finished. We know it as an accomplished fact. But many in the world around us. Don't believe the same thing. What God wants from us is the same thing that the Apostle Paul had encouraged Timothy to do – **Preach the Word**.

How do we use God's word? Well, think of the ways in which we can help make other people alive. We can preach or Harold to them, as Paul told Timothy to do, right? He says preach the word. But it's not up to you or I to be the savior. God wants you and I to Simply preach the word and point to the Savior to point to the one who makes us alive. But even though we were dead in our transgressions and sins, God would make us alive in Christ Jesus that he'd bring us the faith to trust and believe that Jesus is our savior from sin. When we think about the value and blessing of God's word, if we were dead in our transgressions and sins, that means that we were indeed on a one-way path and ticket to hell.

God tells us in the Bible – **the wages of sin is death**. But then he also tells us about the way to heaven. And that the only way to heaven is through Jesus.

Do you know someone who right now might to be dead in their transgressions and sins? Consider the ways in the opportunities that you might have to share that word of God with them. To revive their soul and their spirit by giving the Holy Spirit the opportunity to make them alive again by sharing the Word with them.

But the other aspect of what God's word is and how important is it to us in our lives, is that other thought of not only does it make us alive, but **it also makes us healthy**.

Now, you think about the many uses of God's word. Paul list them there, as he rattles through them, doesn't he? That God's word is **useful right for teaching, rebuking correcting and training in righteousness so that the man of God might be thoroughly equipped for every good work**. Now, just so, you know, when it says, man of God, that doesn't refer only to me as your pastor, but that refers to every single one of us.

How important for is it for you, for example, to be physically healthy? Pretty important. You'll go to the doctor for checkups. You'll take medications to correct something that might be wrong. You'll exercise to stay in good physical health and conditioning.

How important is it to be spiritually healthy? When we think about our spiritual health, we know the value of God's Word and its meaning to us in making us alive. But there's someone who constantly wants to attack that position – that solid foundation in which you stand – and that's the devil. He's going to continue to bombard you to try and tear you away and separate you from God's love. Yet God tells us the more and more we continue to hear that good news of our Savior, we grow in that Grace and knowledge of him. The more and more, we hear that good news of God's word, we follow that pattern that God had shared through the Apostle Paul to share with young Pastor Timothy – to **teach, rebuke, correct and train in righteousness**. So that we can continue to remain spiritually healthy.

When things are going bad, when our spiritual health isn't the greatest, when we find ourselves in a bit of a rut, or unhealthy patterns. How important it is to hear from God himself –

- Perhaps, it's guilt that you're facing – You hear God's word and his reminder that your sins are all forgiven.
- Perhaps, you're doubting his love for you and you get to hear – Nothing will ever separate you from God's love neither height nor depth nor anything else in all creation.
- And every other battle and attack that the devil might try and throw at you – Good news about your savior and to know that every single one of God's promises to you is indeed certain and true and God will hold for you.

This is God's Word. It's a short and it's a simple statement. Is one that God wants us to believe, with all of our heart and soul and strength in mind. But how difficult it is when we think of the world around us. And we think about all the attacks that we face Continue to encourage each other in this very aspect of God's word. Hold the solid foundation and sound doctrine that weird sound literally means to maintain health. We think of standing firm on that solid foundation of God's word. So that no matter what attacks of the devil, we might face, we know that God continues to remind us, not only has he made us alive. But that he keeps us spiritually healthy.

Let's pray – Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of your Word. It is a wonderful blessing where you remind us that Jesus is our only Savior from sin. Through it, you continue to not only make us alive, but also keep us healthy. We ask that you continue to sustain and nurture our faith through your Word, and give us more and more opportunities to share this good news of Jesus, with others. We ask this all in his name. Amen.

The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Amen. (Phil.4:7)

¹⁰ You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹ persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹² In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: ² Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. ³ For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. ⁵ But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.