

## THE WORD OF GOD

Purpose: The Word of God is a study to help seekers accept the Bible as the one true standard (vs. feelings, experiences, peers' opinions, or family traditions) by which to live life if one is to know true salvation from Jesus.

### **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

Q: How much of the Bible do you think is from God?

Q: Can we pick and choose?

Q: What does this passage say about Scripture? (The Scriptures are highly useful; useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.)

Q: Have you trained for anything in life?

Q: What principles of training ensure success? (The Bible thoroughly equips us; thus, it is all we need to be able to live a righteous life filled with every good work.)

### **Matthew 7:24-27**

Q: According to Jesus, what should we build our lives on if we want to make it through the storms of life? (We should build our lives on the only true solid foundation which are the words of Jesus by putting His words into practice.)

Q: What does Jesus say everyone is if they don't put his words into practice?

Q: Have you been putting the words of Jesus into practice when it comes to your life (i.e. marriage, parenting, finances)?

Q: What will be the outcome of your life if you continue building your life the way you are currently?

### **Matthew 15:1-9**

Q: What happens if we build our spiritual lives on traditions or other things rather than on God's Word? (We worship in vain; we can never let traditions, the teachings of men, or culture supersede God's Word; we must obey God's word over our own feelings, the opinions of others, or even the teachings of religious people.)

### **John 8:30-32**

Q: How are these particular Jews described? (They believed.)

Q: Is belief sufficient if it is not accompanied by obedience? (No.)

Q: Who are really Jesus' disciples? (Those who hold to the teachings of Jesus.) **Read John 14:23-24**

### **John 12:47-50**

Q: The words that Jesus spoke came from who? (*"For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it."*)

Q: Why should we study the words of Jesus; essentially the word of God? (It is going to judge us.)

We need to take heed to the words of Jesus because He makes it clear, *"...the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day."*

### **James 1:22-25**

Q: What happens if we "merely" listen to God's word? (We deceive and mislead ourselves.)

Essentially, the Bible is like a mirror that shows us who we really are and how much we really need a relationship with God. When we do not apply it to our lives...we quickly forget who we really are and how much we really need God.)

Q: What do you think it means to look "intently" into the Bible? (To study.)

Q: What happens when we look into the Bible intently and apply it to our lives? (We are blessed.)

### **Challenge:**

**Q: Are you ready to throw out any feelings, opinions, traditions and, teachings of men, which may contradict God's word and build your life solely on the Bible?**

**Q: Are you willing to look intently into God's word every day and apply it to your life?**

### **Additional verses:**

**Acts 17:10-11** – We need to be like the Berean's and check the Scriptures to see if the things that people teach and preach are from God.

**2 Peter 1:19-21** – *"...no prophecy of scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation...men spoke from God..."*

**2 Peter 3:16** – The scriptures can be difficult to understand. Some people distort them, to their own destruction.

**Matthew 13:1-23** – Parable of the Soils.

**2 Timothy 2:15** – *"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved...who correctly handles the word of truth."*

**Psalms 119:60** – *"I will hasten and not delay to obey your commands."*

**Ezekiel 33:30-33** – People who listen to God's word (from a prophet) but do not put them into practice.

**Proverbs 14:12** – *"There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death."*

**Proverbs 28:26** – Those who trust in themselves are fools, but those who walk in wisdom are kept safe.

**Proverbs 28:9** – If anyone turns a deaf ear to God's instruction, even their prayers are detestable.

**1 Kings 13:1-26** – It's not okay to defy *"the word of the Lord"* and not do exactly what God has commanded us, exactly the way He commanded us to do it.

## FACTS ABOUT THE BIBLE

- There are over 40 authors of 66 different books within the Bible.
- The Bible was written in 3 languages – Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek.
- Approximately 400 prophecies regarding Jesus in Old Testament are fulfilled in New Testament.
- The Bible was written over a period of 1500 years.
- One common thread of God’s relationship to man holding it all together—amazing!
- There are more ancient (partial & complete) copies of the Bible than any other ancient manuscript.

AUTHOR & BOOK	WRITTEN	COPIES	TIME GAP	# OF MANUSCRIPTS
HOMER’S ILLIAD	800 B.C.	400 B.C.	400 YEARS	643
HERODOTUS’ HISTORY	480-425 B.C.	A.D. 900	1350 YEARS	8
PLATO	400-425 B.C.	A.D. 900	1300 YEARS	7
ARISTOTLE	340 B.C.	A.D. 1100	1440 YEARS	5
DEMOTHENES	300 B.C.	A.D. 1100	1400 YEARS	200
OLD TESTAMENT	1500-500 B.C.	200 B.C.	200-400 YEARS	ALMOST 5,000 EARLY MANUSCRIPTS OF PARTIAL OR COMPLETE NEW TESTAMENT (IN VARIOUS LANGUAGES) <b>1000 IN ORIGINAL HEBREW</b>
NEW TESTAMENT	A.D. 50-90	A.D. 130 (FRAGMENT) A.D. 325 (COMPLETE)	50-225 YEARS	ALMOST 40,000 EARLY MANUSCRIPTS OF PARTIAL OR COMPLETE NEW TESTAMENT (IN VARIOUS LANGUAGES) <b>5,000 IN ORIGINAL GREEK</b>

Homer was an Ancient Greek writer and poet. Herodotus was an Ancient Greek Historian. Plato was a classical Greek Philosopher & Mathematician. He was a foundational figure in Western Philosophy & Science. Aristotle was a Greek Philosopher and student of Plato. He is considered a founding figure of Western Philosophy. Demosthenes was a Greek statesman and orator. All the works of these men fill our literature, math, science and philosophy, high school and college textbooks; and their works are considered historically accurate and reliable. However, none of the works of these men comes close to documentation that we have for Bible!