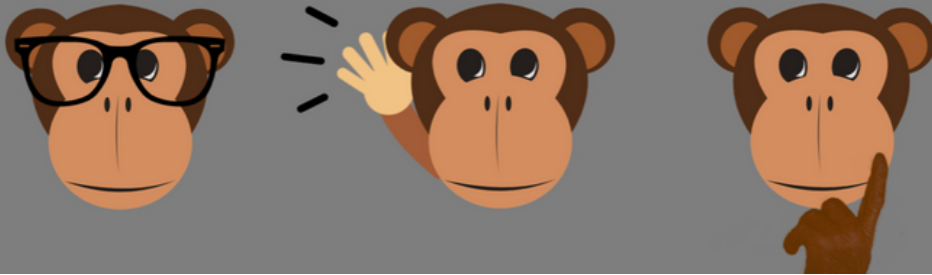


THE WORD



READ THE WORD.

Time for a quick history lesson:

Did you know the earliest copies we have of Plato's writings are from 1300 years after his death?

Did you know the earliest copies we have of The Gaelic Wars by Caesar are from 900 years after his death?

In comparison, we have copies of books in the New Testament from as early as 30 years after Jesus' death. In fact, there are over 5000 copies written between 30-300 years after his death. Thank goodness early Christians really wanted this good news to spread!

God could have given us the Bible and said, "Here. Read. Just trust me on this one."

But he didn't.

As far as historical documents go, the Bible is a trustworthy one. God intentionally intertwined himself in history so we can read this book with confidence. The facts check out.

We get to grow, learn, and live in the truths and stories it holds, trusting it's accurate and unchanging.

IN THE BIBLE.

2 Timothy 3:15-17

You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

Psalms 119:97

Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long.

Psalms 19:7-11

The instructions of the Lord are perfect,
reviving the soul.

The decrees of the Lord are trustworthy,
making wise the simple.

The commandments of the Lord are right,
bringing joy to the heart.

The commands of the Lord are clear,
giving insight for living.

Reverence for the Lord is pure,
lasting forever.

The laws of the Lord are true;
each one is fair.

They are more desirable than gold,
even the finest gold.

They are sweeter than honey,
even honey dripping from the comb.

They are a warning to your servant,
a great reward for those who obey them.

QUESTIONS.

1. What stood out to you in those verses? Why?
2. Why is the Bible important for faith? What does 1 Timothy 3:15-17 list as other reasons?
3. What can you do to spend more consistent time in the Bible? If you have a consistent quiet time, what does that look like?

Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?