
THE BIBLE, WEEK 3 - SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

AARON JAYNE - MARCH 9 & 10, 2019

Practical Application

- One of the statements Aaron made this weekend was that "arguments for the mind are necessary, but not sufficient." How would you describe the difference between understanding Christianity logically to experiencing God personally? In other words, it is good to be convinced in your mind that the Bible is true, but we must also have the truth impact our hearts. Jonathan Edwards, a famous preacher from the 1700's, used a great illustration describing the difference between knowing Jesus with your heart not just your mind. He said "your mind can know honey is sweet people can tell you it's sweet you've read books about it etc. but if you haven't actually tasted it you know with your head but not with your heart. When you actually taste it you experience it for yourself you know it in a full way and you can know it in your heart." Where are you at in your journey with Jesus and how would you describe your relationship with Him; heart, mind, both?
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- Spend some time before small group meditating on the Gospel. Author and pastor, Tim Keller, defines it like this, "The Gospel is this: We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope." How does the Gospel moving from our minds to our hearts change the way we view ourselves and others?
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THE BIBLE, WEEK 3 - MESSAGE NOTES

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Matthew 7:24) "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock."

Can I Trust The Bible? Part 1

1. The Bible is _____.

(Luke 1:1-4) Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

(Mark 15:21) A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross.

(John 18:10) Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.)

(Mark 10:46) Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means "son of Timaeus"), was sitting by the roadside begging.

(Mark 16:1) When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body.

(Luke 24:10) It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles.

(Luke 24:18) One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

(Matthew 27:46) About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").

2. The Bible is the truth about a _____.

(Luke 24:25-27) He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then

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enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

(Matthew 5) 11 "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad... 21 "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' 22 But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment... 27 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell... 38 "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' 39 But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. 40 And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. 41 If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. 42 Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. 43 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

(2 Corinthians 5:21) God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

3. The Bible is truth for the _____, not just the _____.

(Luke 24:28-32) As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

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Personal

- What most resonated with you from last week's message? What most challenged you?

- What areas of your life you have applied biblical principles and seen them work? What areas do you want or need to apply biblical principles to?

Biblical

- In Mark 6:39 the Bible says, "Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass." Thinking about eyewitness testimony and how the writers of the Gospel used that to authenticate their books, what detail of this verse stands out to you as seemingly unnecessary to the narrative but highlights the fact this is an eyewitness recounting? Understanding that the Gospel is not legends about Jesus written down years after His time but were actually written during the time of living eyewitnesses of the actual events, how does that change the reliability of or how you personally trust the Bible?

- Read Matthew 13:53-58. In week one we talked about how the Bible is alive, but is activated by faith. This week we learned that the Bible must be read and studied understanding that the point and plot is all about Jesus. In light of all that, discuss the passage just read and talk about the role of faith in seeing Jesus move in our life or understanding and releasing the power of the Bible.
- Genesis 15:5-6 says, "He took him outside and said 'Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.' Then he said to him 'So shall your offspring be.' Abram believed the Lord and he credited it to him as righteousness." And then Paul writes about this in Romans 4. Read Romans 4, especially verses 23-25. If we interpret the Bible without Jesus it feels for most impossible to live up to God's standard, follow all the rules, or ever be "good enough." What does believing in Jesus accomplish that our performance never could?

