



# SURVIVAL KIT

Prepare today. Overcome tomorrow.

## WEEK 8—AUTHORITY: 3 INADEQUATE SOURCES

### Four Sources of Authority

Day 1

Read Colossians 2:1-4, 8, 20-23. Memorize 1 Corinthians 2:14.

“I want to speak to someone in authority.” Sometimes we feel the need to talk to the one with the final say about our situation. This week we will study about three subtle and dangerous sources of authority. Next week, we will concentrate on the one true source of authority. Match the word that best summarizes the description:

A. Experience—B. Intellect—C. Scripture—D. Tradition

A person determines truth by:

- 1. his ability to reason what is right or wrong.
- 2. according to what has been important to his family, ancestors, society
- 3. according to what God reveals in written form. A revelation.
- 4. by listening to their senses, feelings and emotions.

### Intellect. Reason. Logic.

Day 2

Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; 2:6-14.

Paul wasn't saying the Christian faith is anti-intellectual. Paul himself was highly educated and very intelligent. He doesn't accuse the world of having too much wisdom, but too little. Why does the Bible say it is impossible for a person to find God through their own intellect? What kind of wisdom do we have?

### Experiences. Visions. Impressions.

Day 3

Read Deuteronomy 13:1-4; Colossians 2:18-19. Quote 1 Corinthians 2:14.

Many religions have been founded on personal experience. This is their source of authority. Evaluating an experience is a serious matter. If someone says they have a vision from God, even yourself, how can you be certain that what they are saying or what you experienced is really from God?



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## Experiences. Visions. Impressions.

Day 3

According to Deut. 13:1-4, what is a sure test of the truth in the experience of a prophet or a dreamer? Does the experience shared leads us away from the one true God?

**Colossians 2:18-19.** What did Paul have to say about the visions people were sharing? What mistake is made by people who use experience as their authority?

## Tradition

Day 4

**Read Matthew 15:1-9. 1 Peter 1:18-19.**

How do traditions develop? Someone in the past decided something should be repeated again and again. Traditions can be very important. They can also be a dead ritual. Original meanings can be lost. People can be kept from seeing the truth.

What is the difference between lip service and heart service?

## Intellect. Experiences. Traditon.

Day 5

**Read 1 Timothy 1:3-7; 6:20-21; 2 Timothy 2:15-19. Work on your memory verses.**

As a Christian you need to be able to discern the authority of teachings you will be exposed to. Are they based on Intellect? Experience? Tradition?

What do man-made teachings lead to? What does true teaching from God lead to? This next week we will see how Scripture is our final authority as a Christian.

Congratulations. You just finished your eighth week! Every new habit takes time and effort. Pretty soon it will be natural and the Word of God will be with you everywhere you go. Next week the focus is on the One True Source of Authority.

Got questions or feedback? Creative ways to help make this happen? Send me a text or email. 918-638-1066 or fbcramona@windstream.net. - Pastor Kevin