

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, April 11, 2010

Passage: Various

Memory Passage: 2 Peter 1:20-21

TODAY: From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

This week we will begin a series on what we believe about the Bible. It is important from time to time to spend time reflection on why we believe what we believe. It is good for us to know or remember why it is that we hold the Bible as central to our faith and practice. This week we are going to look at the reliability of the scripture as the inspired word of God and why that matters.

- (a) **Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17.** How does Paul describe the Scripture in this passage? What does Paul mean when he says “all scripture”? (1 Timothy 5:18; Luke 10:7; 1 Peter 1:23) What is scripture profitable for? What would it say about God if not all scripture was profitable?
- (b) In what ways has God revealed Himself to all mankind (Romans 1:19-23)? How has God revealed Himself and/or inspired the writing of the Bible (Exodus 4:12-16, 31:18; Isaiah 8:1; Jeremiah 1:9; Habakkuk 2:2; John 16:12-15; 1 Corinthians 2:13)?
- (c) How are books like Leviticus, Ezekiel, and Lamentations profitable? Do you treat them as profitable? Why/Why not? Why is the doctrine of inspiration so important? What would we know about God without the Bible? Why is it important for us to keep the whole council of God’s word and not just parts we like?
- (d) *Family:* Read Question (a) and answer the questions. How could you do a better job using scripture in a profitable way?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 2 Peter 1:20-21.** What does this passage affirm about the nature of scripture? How does it describe the process through which the individuals went? How does this relate to Day 1’s description?
- (b) If God is inspiring these men to write, why do all the books of the Bible read so differently from author to author? What does this tell us about the nature of God’s inspiration of scripture?
- (c) How is this helpful for us that God allowed the style or type of literature in which the Bible was written to vary? What does it tell us about God that He would do this?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 Corinthians 2:14 and John 10:27.** How do these two passages convey how we know the Bible is the word of God? What difficulties might this raise for when discussing why we believe the Bible with other people?
- (b) To what extent, do arguments for the internal consistency and external viability of our Bible help us in reaching out to people who don’t hold the Bible as the word of God? Where does faith in the authority of Scripture come from (Romans 10:17; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5)?
- (c) What role do arguments defending the consistency and reliability of the Bible have for us (2 Timothy 2:15-17; Colossians 4:5-6)? How could you strengthen your faith in this area?
- (d) *Family:* Read question (a) and answer the questions. Have you ever experienced what these two verses are talking about when reading the Bible? How so?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Titus 1:2, Matthew 24:35; John 17:17.** What does this passage from Titus say about the nature of God? What do the other two passages add to our understanding of the nature of God’s words? Why is this so important?
- (b) Why is it “risky” for us to make such a big deal about the truthfulness of God’s word and the fact that the Bible is without errors in the original manuscripts (Proverbs 30:5-6)? How is it connected to the character of God that He has promised to keep His word and is truth itself?
- (c) Read John 1:1-2. Who are these two verses talking about? Going back to what we said about the truthfulness of God, what does the fact that Jesus is the incarnation of the Word of God tell us about His character?

(d) What importance does this place on Bible compared to other books, shows, and writings? Do your reading and media consumption practices have a healthy dose of truth mixed with it? What is one way you could be conforming yourself to the Bible?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Psalm 119:97-104.** Reading through this passage, can you identify with the writer? How has the law proven its power to the writer? What has it done for him?

(b) What keeps us from seeing the word of God like the psalmist here? What is the first thing that he says he does with the law? Why is this so important?

(c) Think back. When do you most feel like the psalmist about the Bible? How do these experiences give you confidence in the truth that the Bible is the word of God?

(d) *Family:* Read Psalm 119:97-104. Answer question (a). Is how the writer describes his love for the Bible surprising? Pray that the Lord would give you such an attitude about His word and that you would experience the life that it brings.

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. How do you approach the Bible? Do you have a ready answer for questions that people have about the Bible? How have you experienced the power and truth of the Bible yourself? What can you do to make the Bible a more consistent part of your life and practice?

DATE: April 11, 2010

PASSAGE: Various

The Reliability of the Bible
“the word of the Lord proves true”