

Sermon Discussion Guide

Date: June 2, 2024

Sermon: What We Believe: Scripture

Preacher: Brad

Primary Text: 2 Timothy 3:16-17



SUMMARY

Big Idea: The Bible is the Word of God, Continue In It

The Scriptures, the Bible, 66 books, 39 Old Testament and 27 New Testament, are God-breathed. Because our Bibles have the unique quality of being God's words, they are therefore true, trustworthy, inerrant, infallible, sufficient, and serve as the sole source and final standard for all of life and practice. More than attributes, the Scriptures serve a specific purpose - to make us wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. How is this accomplished? Through the word of God, the Lord teaches us by reproofing us, correcting us through repentance and faith, and training us in righteousness. Because Scripture is God's word and Scripture alone functions in this way, Paul's overarching plea to Timothy, and God's plea to you and I is that we "continue in it". Don't swerve from it, don't progress or move on, don't add to it or take away from it - remain in it, abide in it. Study it diligently, believe it savingly, trust it in its entirety, and proclaim and teach it faithfully.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

From the Sermon

Why are theology and statements of faith important, necessary, and inevitable?

Do you have any hesitations or reservations going into a "What We Believe" preaching series? Why?

The Scriptures

Read 2 Timothy 3:10 - 4:5

1. What is Paul's main concern for Timothy?
 - a. Is this concern relevant for today? Where is this relevant for you personally?
2. How does 3:16-17 function and support Paul's main exhortation to Timothy to "continue"?
3. Why can we be confident that the 66 books of the Bible are exactly what the Lord intended for us?
4. What is it about Scripture that makes it unique?
5. Consider the following attributes of Scripture. Which ones are easy for you to believe and rejoice in? Which ones, if any, are difficult for you to believe?
 - a. **Inspiration** – The words of the Bible are the words of God. God led men by the Holy Spirit to write the Words of God in the words of men
 - b. **Illumination** – God enables mankind, by the Holy Spirit to understand His revelation
 - c. **Authority of Scripture** – the Bible is the only and final source and standard of authority for all of life and faith
 - d. **Inerrancy** – The Bible is free from error in all that it affirms and teaches
 - e. **Infallibility** – The Bible is fully true, upright, trustworthy, and unfeeling
 - f. **Sufficiency** – In the Bible, God has provided all we need for life and godliness

Looking Ahead

Scripture is profitable for teaching, for doctrine, and through this teaching the Lord aims to reprove, correct, and train us in righteousness. Looking ahead to upcoming weeks where we cover specific doctrines, how can these essential purposes of God through his word function to prepare your heart? What should we come to the Bible expecting?