

Discipleship Pathway 1

Session 5: God's Inspired Word

Coming to faith in Jesus is not the destination, but rather it is the beginning of a wonderful journey. This journey is one of _____ and _____ where we are guided in part by the life of Jesus, in part by the Holy Spirit, but also by God's inspired word.

Read: Psalm 119:105

The writer of Psalm 119 describes God's Word as a lamp to guide his feet and light for his path. Commentary found in the New Living Translation makes this observation:

God's Word lights the way, giving direction for each _____ ("to guide my feet") and giving wisdom for _____ - _____ plans ("*for my path*").¹

In other words, God's Word has application for both my day to day living and in guiding my future plans. It is our road map for living a faith-filled life.

Why do you think people today have a hard time believing and living out God's Word?

I. The Scriptures Inspired

The Scripture, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally _____ of God and are the revelation of God to man-the _____, _____ rule of faith and conduct.²

We are going to take time today to discuss what the terms verbally inspired, infallible and authoritative mean in regards to God's Word.

What does it mean that the Bible is "verbally inspired of God"?

Read: 2 Peter 1:21

Did God write the Bible? The answer is yes, but not in our traditional sense of the idea. God did not pick up a notebook and pen and start jotting down passages for us, but rather He worked through inspiration to see that His Word was communicated to mankind. In the context of scripture, the word inspiration means _____ - _____.

¹ Psalm 119:105, New Living Translation: *Kingdom Dynamic Commentary*, (Thomas Nelson, Inc., 2002), 726

² "Statement of Fundamental truths", accessed on 12/9/2022, <https://ag.org/Beliefs/Statement-of-Fundamental-Truths#1>

Read: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

This commentary on the topic of inspiration is both simple and informative: “When people speak of the Bible as inspired, they are referring to the fact that God divinely influenced the human authors of the Scriptures in such a way that what they wrote was the very Word of God. God “_____” the human authors of the Bible so that their individual_____ were preserved but the end result was precisely what God wanted.”³

II. Infallible and authoritative

Read: 1 Thessalonians 2:13

The early apostles recognized scripture as being inspired by God and not the mere words of men. This makes the Word of God unique. By nature of it being verbally inspired by God means that it is _____.

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines infallible as being incapable of error.⁴

The law of God is _____, because God is perfect. **Take a few minutes to read the following passages and discuss how the writers of the Old Testament, New Testament and Jesus viewed the reliability of Scripture.**

Read: Psalm 19:7, Romans 7:12, John 17:17

Because the word of God is both_____ and _____, we can appreciate its value as an_____ rule of faith for our lives. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 defines for us several ways that this is accomplished in our lives: scripture _____ us, _____ us, _____ us, _____ us for righteousness and _____ us for every good work.

Read the following passages and discuss how each verse supports the idea that God’s Word is meant to direct the way that we live: Luke 11:28, John 14:15, Ezekiel 18:9, James 1:22

This week’s reading plan: Read: Genesis Ch. 41-50, Proverbs Ch. 5

³ “Who wrote the Bible?”, accessed 12/9/2022, <https://www.gotquestions.org/who-wrote-the-Bible.html>

⁴Merriam-Webster Dictionary, accessed 12/9/2022, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/infallible>