

The Bible: How We Got the Bible (2 Timothy 3:14-17)

Begin your time in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to lead you in truth and teach you through God's Word. As you complete each devotional, ask God that you would not be just a hearer of the Word but a doer also. (James 1:22) Be in continual prayer for those around you who do not yet love Jesus.

Monday

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17 in ESV and NIV

"... the Book itself is the best witness of its own inspiration. It is utterly inexplicable and unaccountable in any other point of view. It is the greatest standing miracle in the world. He that dares to say the Bible is not inspired, let him give a reasonable account of it, if he can. Let him explain the peculiar nature and character of the Book in a way that will satisfy any man of common sense. The burden of proof seems to my mind to lie on him." -JC Ryle

1. Do you treat the scriptures as the "God breathed" Word or like just another book?
2. "God breathed" can be translated from the word *theopneustos* to mean inspiration. What does this say about the reliability of the Bible?
3. Does verse 16 boost your confidence in the scripture? How?
4. Read John 17:17 and Ps. 119:160.

Tuesday

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17 in ESV and NIV

"The Bible carries the same weight of authority as if God himself were giving utterance to the words." - John Calvin

1. If the Bible is inspired, what does that say about the person who lives out what it says?
2. How does the Bible train you in righteousness? Read Hebrews 5:11-14, Romans 15:4 and 2 Chronicles 17:1-19.
3. Verse 16 says the Bible is "profitable for teaching." This does not mean you need an education in the scriptures in order to teach it. What it means is that it does the work for itself. Being God breathed, it's powerful no matter your educational background. How does this change your approach to evangelism and talking about the things of scripture with others?
4. What is the common argument you receive or have heard about God's Word being inspired? How do you answer those questions? Read Philippians 2:13-14.

Wednesday

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17 in ESV and NIV

"By inspiration of the Scripture we mean that supernatural influence of the Holy Spirit upon the Scripture writers, which rendered their writings an accurate record of the revelation or which resulted in what they wrote actually being the Word of God." -Millard J. Erickson

"God superintended the human authors of the Bible so that they composed and recorded without error His message to mankind in the words of their original writings." -Charles C. Ryrie

1. Read a portion of the first chapters of each gospel in the New Testament and try to point out the difference in personalities.

REV DAILY DEVOTIONAL

2. The Bible speaks on many practical matters we face each day, but the reality is there are some things we face that the Bible does not directly speak to. Since the Word is inspired, how do you use what it does say to help you come to a conclusion about what it does not directly say?
3. Paul says scripture is "profitable for teaching, reproof, correction and training." What is a common theme within this list?
4. How many ways can you find to continue to live and love the Bible in this passage? What are they?

Thursday

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17 in ESV and NIV

"Obeying God's Word is the hallmark of a disciple and the test of true love." -John J. Hughes

1. How do good works relate to faith and salvation?
2. After reading 2 Timothy 3:14-17, what would you say is the Bible's purpose? Read also Philippians 1:9-11.
3. A common misconception within parts of the church is that Jesus' words (red letters) in the New Testament hold more weight than the rest of the book. Why is this idea false? And how can you use 2 Timothy 3:14-17 against that way of viewing the Bible?
4. Paul says that just as physical training has great value, even greater is training in godliness. (1 Timothy 4:8) If this is so, are you giving as much time, value and energy to your training in godliness as you are physical training?
5. Are you putting enough effort into feeding yourself and/or your family with scripture as you do feeding them and/or yourself food? If not, what is one step you need to take to change?
6. Read John 15:11 and Psalm 19:10.

Friday

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17 in ESV and NIV and review your answers from this week's questions.

"The Bible is not an ordinary book, and we will never taste its choicest fruits if we approach it in an ordinary manner." -John J. Hughes

1. What truths impacted you the most within this week's passage?
2. What aspect of God's character has this passage shown you more clearly?
3. What one step will you take in light of these truths?

Saturday

Read 2 Timothy 3:14 - 17; Psalm 1; John 5:39 - 40 in ESV

Catch up on any days you may have missed throughout the week.

Pray for our service tomorrow, that God would rescue us all from the delusions that we can make it on our own. Pray that our hearts would be flooded by the overwhelming power of God's presence and that God would speak through the preaching of His Word, setting the captives free and strengthening our faith. Pray that God would open someone's eyes while the gospel is being preached, that they would come from death to life in Jesus.

