

Equip- The Holy Bible Study Guide

1. According to psychologist Dr. Drew Pinsky (NY Bestseller, The Mirror Effect), "*You are becoming more of what you look at.*" Jesus said in Luke 11:34- "*Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are good, your whole body also is full of light.*" Science tells us that what enters your eye gate forms neurological pathways in your brain. For example, bad behaviors on TV, are emulated by their viewers. By contrast, the more you read the Bible, the more it affects how you behave. Do you agree? Discuss.

2. How did we get the Bible? Discuss some the following passages from the sermon:

- a. The first record of God's word – Exodus 19:17-19; Ex. 24:12; Deut. 31:24-26
- b. God's standard for God's word- Deut. 18:16-18; Deut. 18:19-22
- c. The NT affirms the OT- Luke 24:25-27; Luke 24:44
- d. The OT is unveiled in the NT- Hebrews 1:1-2 & fulfilled prophecies of the Messiah
- e. God's standard for the NT- John 16:13-15; John 14:25-26; Rev. 22:18

What do we learn about the formation of Scripture? Discuss.

3. Discuss the implications of the various attributes of God's word.

1. God-breathed

2 Tim.3:16 "*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness...*"

2. Eternal

Matt. 24:35- "*Heaven and earth may pass away, but my words will never pass away.*"

3. Perfect

Psalm 19:7 "*The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.*"

4. Active

Heb. 4:12 "*For the word of God is alive and active.*"

5. Cleansing

Ps. 119:9 "*How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word.*"

6. Spiritual guidance

Psalm 119:105 "*Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.*"

7. Spiritual nourishment

Heb. 5:12 "*In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!*"

4. John 1:14 says, "*And the word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*" How has reading the Bible helped you to "*behold*" Jesus, and be transformed by Him? What could you do to increase/improve on your Bible reading? Discuss.

Message Slides
Equip 2
How we Got the Bible

Equip!

What is the deal with the Bible?

How did we get it?

What does it do for me?

Big Idea: You become what you behold!

Luke 11:34- "Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are good, your whole body also is full of light."

Deuteronomy 8:3 (Matthew 4:4; Luke 4:4)

"Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God."

Big Idea: You become what you behold!

John 6:68

"To whom shall we go? You and you alone have the words of life."

Nourishment (1 Peter 2:2), Direction (Psalm 119:105), Discernment (Hebrews 4:12), Protection (Psalm 119:11), Cleansing (Ephesians 5:26), Stability (Matthew 7:24), Encouragement (Psalm 130:5), Faith (Romans 10:17), Success (Joshua 1:8).

I. What's the deal with the Bible?

A. How many Americans read the Bible?

American Bible Society/Barna

54% of US adults believe the Bible is God's word.

10% ...not from God.

10% ...written to control or manipulate people.

16% ... read the Bible most days of the week.

50%- ...read or listen at least 3-4x per year.

B. Why don't more people believe the Bible is God's authority?

Absolute Truth

Hard Hearts

2 Thessalonians 2:10b

"...perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved."

C. How reliable are the old manuscripts?

D. What does the Bible claim about itself?

1. God-breathed

2 Timothy 3:16 "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, ..."

2. Powerful

Psalm 33:6- "By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, ..."

3. Eternal

Matthew 24:35- "Heaven and earth may pass away, but my words will never pass away."

4. Flawless

Psalms 12:6- "And the words of the LORD are flawless,..."

5. Active

Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God is alive and active..."

II. How did we get the Bible?

A. Chain of communication

1. General Revelation
2. Special Revelation
3. Distribution
4. Recognition
5. Preservation

B. Determining factors

1. Author
2. Miracles
3. Truth
4. Transformation
5. Acceptance

C. Historical progression

1. Formation of the Old Testament

Exodus 19:17-19

Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. ¹⁸ Mount Sinai was covered with smoke, because the LORD descended on it in fire. The smoke billowed up from it like smoke from a furnace, and the whole mountain trembled violently. ¹⁹ As the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and the voice of God answered him.

Exodus 24:12

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction."

Deuteronomy 31:24-26

²⁴ After Moses finished writing in a book the words of this law from beginning to end, ²⁵ he gave this command to the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD: ²⁶ "Take this Book of the Law and place it beside the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God. There it will remain as a witness..."

Deuteronomy 18:16-18

"Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die." ¹⁷ The LORD said to me: "What they say is good. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him.

Deuteronomy 18:21-22

²¹ You may say to yourselves, "How can we know when a message has not been spoken by the LORD?" ²² If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the LORD does not take place or come true,

that is a message the LORD has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously, so do not be alarmed.

2 Chronicles 32:32- "The rest of the acts are written in the vision of Isaiah..."

2. New Testament affirmation of the OT

a. Jesus quotes from the OT

b. Jesus explains prophecy about Himself

Luke 24:25-27

²⁵ He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken!

²⁶ Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

Luke 24:44

⁴⁴He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

3. Formation of the New Testament

1 John 1: 3

"We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ."

John 16:13-15

¹³But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. ¹⁵ All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.

Revelation 22:18-19

¹⁸I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this scroll: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in this scroll. ¹⁹ And if anyone takes words away from this scroll of prophecy, God will take away from that person any share in the tree of life and in the Holy City, which are described in this scroll.

4. Canonization- Jesus

Genesis- The seed of the woman

Exodus- The Passover lamb

Leviticus- The High Priest

Numbers- The pillar of cloud/fire

Psalms- The Good Shepherd

Revelation- Alpha-Omega

Big Idea: You become what you behold!

John 1:14

"And the word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."