

Living as God's People

LESSON 3: LIVING TOGETHER THRU CHRIST & HIS WORD

BIG IDEA: The Bible is God's Word, and therefore a reliable guide for faith and living.

Do you believe the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments to be the written Word of God, the only perfect rule of faith and practice?

I. THE BIBLE IS OUR RELIABLE GUIDE

²⁰To the teaching and to the testimony! If they will not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn. **ISAIAH 8**

- All _____ are to be measured by the _____ of God's Word.
- All _____ is to be measured by the standard of God's Word.
- The Word of God is a _____ guide for us.

...¹⁵ and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. **2 TIMOTHY 3**

- God's word is "spoken" by God, _____ by Him and written by _____.
- Because God does not _____ (Titus 1:2), whatever it teaches us is true.
- The whole Bible teaches us about God's plan of _____ through faith in Christ.
- The whole Bible is useful for teaching, or _____, in the truth.
- The whole Bible removes our _____, and teaches us how this world really works.
- The whole Bible is the source of our _____ (the things we believe) about God, us and salvation.
- The whole Bible _____ us, or shows us where we have gone wrong so we can change.
- The whole Bible corrects, or _____ us out, so we learn to live the right way.
- The whole Bible trains us to live righteous lives, or in a way that _____ God.
- God has given us the Bible to equip us, or make us _____, for good _____.
- The Bible is not just to satisfy intellectual curiosity, but to _____ how we _____.

"Don't seek to master the Bible so much as to be mastered by it."

WE LIVE AS GOD'S PEOPLE BY _____, BELIEVING AND _____ THE BIBLE.

In Review

What rule has God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?
The word of God, which is contained in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him. (WSC, 2)

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What do the scriptures principally teach?

The scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man. (WSC, 3)

II. GOD HELPS US UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE

¹⁵ And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, ¹⁶ as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. **2 PETER 3**

- The Bible is _____ in its teaching. Peter agreed with Paul because God gave both of them wisdom.
- The Bible is not always _____ to understand.
- People are prone to _____ the teachings of Scripture. They remain ignorant, and lead others astray.

Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. ² But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. ³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. **2 CORINTHIANS 4**

- Paul, and the other human authors, spoke the truth as _____ as they could.
- Those who don't _____ can't understand what the Bible teaches. It isn't an _____ problem.
- They don't understand because _____ has blinded them. They are _____ blind.
- God Himself must shine His light in our hearts so we can _____ and _____.
- We only know the truth if God _____ us to know it.

"The Spirit inspired the Word and therefore he goes where the Word goes. The more of God's Word you know and love, the more of God's Spirit you will experience. ... The Word frees us from smallness of mind and from threatening confinements."

JOHN PIPER

UNDERSTANDING THE WORD

Anticipation → → → cr ← Fulfilment →

Genesis Malachi Mt Revelation us

Historical Context

Grammar

Living as God's People

Genre

Epochal Adjustments

WE LIVE AS GOD'S PEOPLE AS HE HELPS US TO UNDERSTAND THE _____.

PRACTICAL CONSEQUENCES

- We live as God's people as we ask Him to help us _____ His Word.
- We live as God's people by _____ the Bible each day.
- We live as God's people by _____ to what God says to us in sermons.
- We live as God's people by _____ the Bible together in Sunday School.
- We live as God's people by studying the Bible together in _____.