

# Truth Part3 “Bible People”

## Context:

- **Paul is in jail writing his last letter**
- **Paul is writing to his dear son in the faith, Timothy**

### 2 Timothy 3:12-17 (NIV)

In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, <sup>13</sup>while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, **deceiving and being deceived.** <sup>14</sup>But as for you, **continue** in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup>and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup>All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

## Christians are characterized as people of the Word

- **Christians trust the Word. They know where it came from.**

### 2 Peter 1:20-21 (NIV)

Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

### Matthew 24:35 (NLT)

Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words will never disappear.

## The Bible tells us...

- **The Word guides us to a restored relationship with God through Christ (2 Timothy 3:15)**

### John 5:39-40 (NLT)

“You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me! <sup>40</sup>Yet you refuse to come to me to receive this life.

- **The Word gives us right standards for living (2 Timothy 3:16)**

### John 17:16-18 (NIV)

They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.

- **The Word equips us for service and ministry (2 Timothy 3:17)**

### 2 Timothy 2:15 (NASB95)

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

- **The Word protects us**

### Ephesians 6:17 (NLT)

Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

### Proverbs 30:5 (NLT)

Every word of God proves true. He is a shield to all who come to him for protection.

- **The Word guides us**

### Psalms 119:105 (NLT)

Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.

- **The Word feeds us**

### Matthew 4:4 (NLT)

But Jesus told him, “No! The Scriptures say, ‘People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”

- **The Word grows us up spiritually**

### **1 Peter 2:2 (NLT)**

Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment,

## **How to Bring the Word to Life**

### **Remember: The Word is living and active**

#### **Hebrews 4:12-13 (NLT)**

For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.

### **Remember: We will have to be disciplined and faithful to the study of the Word**

- There are many ways to take in the Word - music, audio Bible, sermons, books

#### **2 Timothy 1:7 (NLT)**

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.

#### **Deuteronomy 17:18-20 (NLT)**

“When he sits on the throne as king, he must copy for himself this body of instruction on a scroll in the presence of the Levitical priests. <sup>19</sup>He must always keep that copy with him and read it daily as long as he lives. That way he will learn to fear the LORD his God by obeying all the terms of these instructions and decrees. <sup>20</sup>This regular reading will prevent him from becoming proud and acting as if he is above his fellow citizens. It will also prevent him from turning away from these commands in the smallest way. And it will ensure that he and his descendants will reign for many generations in Israel.

### **Remember: To spend time with God doesn't mean you will feel good**

- Sometimes surgery is painful

### **1<sup>st</sup> Pray. The Word is the tool and the Holy Spirit is the surgeon.**

#### **Ephesians 1:18 (NLT)**

I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Seek to read and understand the Word.**

- What does it say and what does it mean
- Context is important. Who is speaking and who is being spoken to
- What is the consistent message in the Word on the subject you are studying
- You may need help from other believers or from commentaries and books

#### **Acts 17:11 (NLT)**

And the people of Berea were more open-minded than those in Thessalonica, and they listened eagerly to Paul's message. They searched the Scriptures day after day to see if Paul and Silas were teaching the truth.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Apply the Word to yourself first. Be doers and hearers of the Word.**

#### **James 1:22-25 (NLT)**

But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Become a tool of encouragement and truth to God's people.**

#### **Colossians 3:16 (NLT)**

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts.

#### **Luke 6:42 (NLT)**

How can you think of saying, 'Friend, let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye? Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye.

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