

Bible Basics//Session 1: The Inspired Bible

Critical Question: Can I _____ the Bible?

Formal Doctrine: The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct.

Big Idea: The Bible is _____ reliable and trustworthy in its original writings and intent.

Key Verse: 2 Timothy 3:15-17 (English Standard Version), "**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. **16 All Scripture** is *breathed out by God* and *profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness*, **17** that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

What is the Bible?

The Bible is a kind of _____, containing the epic stories, poems, laws, histories, wisdom, and instruction of God's ongoing community.

It is meant to:

- 1) Tell the _____ of the relationship of God and His people
- 2) _____ God's people in how to live at peace with Him and in relationship with the world

Where did the Bible come from?

Hebrews 1:1-2 (King James Version), "**God**, who at *sundry times and in divers manners* spake in time past unto the fathers by the *prophets*, hath in these last days *spoken unto us by his Son*, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;"

God to humans in history to humans for history

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (ESV), "And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the **word of God**, which **you heard from us**, you accepted it not as **the word of men** but as what it really is, **the word of God**, which is at work in you believers.

2 Peter 1:21 (ESV), "For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but **men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.**"

These writings, both the Old and New Testaments, were compiled by God's people as _____ for God's people.

Why should I trust the Bible?

- 1) The _____ Reason - Believers choose to trust the Bible because Jesus trusted the Bible
- 2) The _____ Reason - Believers choose to trust the Bible because history consistently affirms its claims
- 3) The _____ Reason - Believers choose to trust the Bible because is both coherent and congruent in its teachings
- 4) The _____ Reason - Believers choose to trust the Bible because its teachings, claims, and promises consistently bear fruit in people's lives

Questions to Consider:

- 1) Why do you trust the Bible?
- 2) How has trusting the Bible shaped your life?
- 3) Share something from this session that encouraged or challenged you.