

SESSION 1: BIBLICALLY ROOTED

Passage: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, **17** so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

Key Idea: **All of Scripture comes from God.**

All Scripture is God-breathed

All of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation is the inspired Word of God. Written over 1,500 years, 66 books, by more than 40 authors in 3 languages - all communicating the single truth of the story of God, and His desire to rescue and redeem His people!

Discussion Questions:

1. What is the significance of Scripture being inspired by God, as stated in 2 Timothy 3:16?
2. Why is it important to view the Scriptures as authoritative in matters of faith and practice?
3. How do we practically apply this truth in our lives?

Key Idea: **All of Scripture is useful to us.**

All scripture is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness

Everything in the Bible has been given by God to His people for our benefit. It is useful to us in four main areas: teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training. Each of these attributes are to grow us as followers of Jesus Christ.

For Teaching:

God has given us His Word for us to be able to teach one another the character and nature of God, including His plan for the redemption of humanity, thorough the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Colossians 3:16

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

For Rebuking:

By definition, rebuke is defined as “to express sharp disapproval or criticism to behavior or actions.” The Bible serves as a tool used by God’s people to convict and challenge us when we are acting in a way that is contrary to what God has commanded.

2 Thessalonians 3:15

Yet do not regard them as an enemy, but warn them as you would a fellow believer.

For Correcting:

The purpose of correction is to shape us into the image of God, to redirect us back onto the path God desires for His children when we have strayed from it. God’s Word provides us with an understanding of what that path is, and instruction for how to bring ourselves and others back onto that path.

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

For Training in Righteousness:

The Bible serves as a manual given by God to offer instruction to His people on how to live holy and godly lives. It trains us to observe and adopt Christ-like attitudes, actions, and words in how we conduct ourselves.

Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Discussion Questions:

1. How could a better grasp of the Scriptures have helped you respond to a recent situation differently?
2. Discuss the importance of memorizing Scripture and how it can be beneficial in moments when you need guidance or encouragement. When was the last time you memorized a scripture? Can you still recite it?
3. Share a personal testimony of how a specific Bible passage has guided and directed you in a challenging situation.
4. Discuss the importance of meditating on Scripture and how it can deepen your understanding and application of God's Word.
5. In what ways can you actively seek the Holy Spirit's guidance as you read and study the Scriptures?
6. How can we encourage one another to regularly engage with the Word of God outside of our small group meetings?

Key Idea: **All of Scripture equips us for our calling:**

Be thoroughly equipped for every good work

God's Word provides all the necessary tools to fulfill what God has called each of us to do with our lives. That means that not only does the Bible supply us with teaching and wisdom, but it should empower us to live out our calling with confidence knowing that God has fully equipped us for the task, whatever that may be.

Hebrews 13:21

***(He will)** equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

Discussion Questions:

1. As a small group, set specific goals for how you will collectively prioritize and integrate the teachings of 2 Timothy 3:16-17 in your lives.
2. Share an example of a time when you witnessed the transformative power of the Scriptures in someone else's life.

Going deeper into God's Word:

1. Identify a specific teaching from the Bible that you find challenging to apply practically. Meditate on this teaching and seek input from the group on how to put it into action.
2. Are there any specific teachings or doctrines you have questioned in the past? How will you approach them now, considering the authority of Scripture?

Leader Resources:

<https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/2-timothy-3/>

<https://www.crossway.org/articles/3-lessons-about-scripture-from-2-timothy-31617/>

Additional Questions for Consideration:

1. In what ways have you personally experienced the transforming power of the Scriptures in your life?
2. How do you interpret the phrase "useful for teaching" in relation to the Bible's role in our spiritual growth?
3. According to verse 16, the Bible is also useful for correcting. How can we approach biblical correction in a loving and respectful manner within our small group?
4. Share an example of how the Scriptures have been beneficial in equipping you for good works.
5. How can we distinguish between godly teaching and human opinions when interpreting and applying Scripture?
6. In what ways can we ensure that the Scriptures remain central in our small group discussions and decision-making processes?
7. Discuss the role of the Holy Spirit in helping us understand and apply the Scriptures in our lives.
8. Reflect on the phrase "for training in righteousness." How does the Bible help us grow in our character and live out our faith authentically? What does training in righteousness look like in your life?
9. Identify an area in your life that requires correction. How can you use the Scriptures to guide you toward positive change?
10. Reflect on the impact of God's Word on your character and behavior. What specific fruits of righteousness can you strive for in your life?

11. Pick out a passage of scripture for your Life Group and challenge the group to memorize it. Be sure to set aside a couple of minutes in subsequent meetings for people to recite the passage to one another.