



The Question of Authority: Who Determines Right & Wrong?

April 29, 2018

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" - Micah 6:8 ESV

WHY THESE GREAT QUESTIONS REALLY MATTER

- They shape HOW WE LIVE
- They are UNAVOIDABLE
- They are INTERCONNECTED

THE T.I.R.E.S. OF SCRIPTURE (Where the Rubber Meets the Road)

T. Trust its AUTHORITY

And now we look back on all this and thank God, ... When you got the Message of God we preached, you didn't pass it off as just one more human opinion, but you took it to heart as God's true word to you, which it is, God himself at work in you believers!

- 1 Thessalonians 2:13 MSG

WHAT IS YOUR AUTHORITY?

- Crowd – Exodus 23:2
- Custom – Mark 7:8
- Conscience – Proverbs 16:25; 1 Timothy 4:2; Judges 21:25
(MSG/NIV/GW)

Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way.

17 Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17 MSG

I. Ingest its Truth

As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious. - 1 Peter 2:2-3 NKJV

Remember what Christ taught, and let His Word enrich your lives and make you wise...

- Colossians 3:16 LB

- Hear – Luke 8:13,18; Hebrews 2:1
- Read – Revelation 1:3; Colossians 4:16
- Examine – Acts 17:11; 2 Timothy 2:15
- Memorize – Psalm 119:11; Deuteronomy 11:18
- Reflect – 2 Timothy 2:7; Luke 2:19

R. Relive its Principles

But don't just listen to God's Word; You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. - James 1:22 NLT

Luke 8:21; 11:28; Matthew 7:24-25 MSG

E. Express its Power

Keep this book of the law on your lips. Recite it by day and by night...then you will successfully attain your goal. - Joshua 1:8 NAB

*Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with Scripture – "I believed, and so I spoke" – we also believe, and so we speak.
- 2 Corinthians 4:13 NRSV*

Psalm 68:1; Romans 10:8; Ezekiel 37

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. - 2 Corinthians 1:20 NIV

S. Share its Insight

Luke 24:27, 32, 45; Acts 8:35; 17:2-3; Romans 1:12

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. - Colossians 3:16 NIV

They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. - Acts 2:42 NIV

For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring Word of God. - 1 Peter 1:23 NIV

Walk the Talk

A Small Group Guide

Read: Joshua 1:1-9

1. Why do you think the Bible must be accepted as the “final authority” on the big issues in life? What happens when it is not seen that way?
2. In this story, how is authority transferred from Moses to Joshua? What is the basis for that authority?
3. Why is a call to “courage” and strength tied so much to an equal call to obedience found in “this Book of the Law?”
4. How can one “take possession” of one’s life and future by following the example found in this story?
5. Of the five points under the T.I.R.E.S. of Scripture, which one gives you the most spiritual traction right now? Which one challenges you the most right now?
6. What is your favorite way to ingest the Scripture into your life?
7. What one way are you going to use the Scripture to move into a new area of possessing your possessions?