



COMMITTED – COMMIT TO SCRIPTURE

Community Group Study Guide: 2 Timothy 3:14-17 – Week of February 19, 2023

Scripture is:

1. Able to make you wise for salvation

Throughout the entirety of scripture, God has been revealing His plan for salvation. The Gospel of Jesus Christ can be found all through the Bible, from beginning to end. Because all scripture is telling the story of the Gospel, it has the capacity to make us wise to salvation. To be clear, stating that scripture is able to make us wise to salvation does not mean that reading scripture will make us saved. It can show us the message of the Gospel, and through the power of the Holy Spirit we can truly see our need for salvation through Christ alone. A great example of how this process works in Luke 24:25-27, in which Jesus reveals from scripture how His life had been prophesied. However, it wasn't until later (V31) in which their eyes were open, so that they fully grasped what they had already been taught. Scripture had given the wisdom that helped lead them to salvation.

2. Breathed out by God

Scripture is a direct expression of God that is given to us for God's purposes. Because it is directly from God, it carries His power and authority. This is why, as Christians, we are called to submit to it, as it is God's command. Furthermore, God's commands through scripture are alive, as He has breathed them out. This means two things for us. One, that scripture itself is living and active. While it is unchanging, it is not inert. The word of God still pierces soul and spirit. It has the power to discern the thought and intentions of the heart. Secondly, we see, that the breathe of God brings life (Gen 2:7). The word of God has the power to bring about life and flourishing, as it comes from the source of life. Because scripture is God's word, because it is God's breath, it is eternal, as God is eternal. It will always have its potency.

DISCUSSION GOALS

Head

That scripture is the word of God, and carries His power, authority, and eternal nature. It is given to us to bring about the work and will of God, and the sanctification of His people.

Heart

We should submit ourselves fully to the authority of God's word, and should properly value it in our lives. We should store up in our heart the instructions and principles of scripture, so that we can both defend ourselves from evil, and commit ourselves to God's good works.

Hands

We should be people who are consistently and deeply steeped in the Word of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Membership 101
3/19 @ 1 pm

3. Able to equip you for every good work

The purpose of scripture is not simply for our internal consumption. It does have the power to train our hearts and minds, but it also is design to equip us for the good works of God's kingdom. Paul list attributes/a process in which this happens. First, through teaching. This is how we learn who God is, and what He expects of us. Second, scripture brings reproof. It shows have where we need to repent because of our sin against God. Third, we have correction, in which scripture aids and directs us toward the good we are called to. Furthermore, we know that scripture tells us that if we confess our sin, Christ will forgive and cleanse us. These three steps lead to maturity, to the training for good works. This is where we continue to grow and flourish in what God has called us to. Scripture helps us to fight against sin, and to do what is good.

Cycle of Spiritual Growth:

1. Unconscious Incompetency
2. Conscious Incompetency
3. Conscious Competency
4. Unconscious Competency

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17

1. What is scripture? Where does it get its power and authority? What is the purpose of scripture?
2. When the passage in Timothy says that scripture is “able to make you wise for salvation,” what does that mean? What implications does that have for the way we think of scriptures role in salvation?
3. How do we defend the authenticity of the New Testament? What challenges do we run into, and how do we respond to them?
4. Our passage states that scripture is “breathed out” by God. What can we learn from this imagery? Why is it important?
5. The early church would meet daily with one another to hear the word of God. They were not discouraged by the circumstances around them, but overcame them. What roadblocks are keeping you from faithfully pursuing God through His word? What habits or routines need to change in order to correct this behavior?
6. When we read scripture, and we come across something that causes us to feel discomfort, how should we respond? What is causing the discomfort? How does sin tempt us in these moments?
7. Tyler pointed to Jesus’ use of scripture in Matthew 4 to rebuke temptation. He suggested that we equip ourselves likewise with scriptures to rebuke specific temptations. What specific scriptures do you have prepared in your heart? How has the power of God’s word provided victory over temptation?