

Questions

For Group Discussion

- Considering Luke 24:27, 44-45, how did Jesus fulfill the Scriptures, and how did the apostles use Scripture to build the early church?
- What does 2 Timothy 3:16-17 say about the sufficiency of Scripture?
- What are your thoughts about the seed principle and scripture (Gen. 1:11; Lk. 8:11)?
- How does the phrase “No creed but Christ” connect with 1 Corinthians 1:10-13?
- What lessons can we learn from the merger of the Stone and Campbell movements?
- What does James 5:16-18 teach about the power of prayer and faith today?
- In John 14:12, Jesus said that believers would do even greater works than He did. How should this impact our lives today?

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Common practices within Churches of Christ

Our Standard of Authority

Acts 17:10-15

“Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so. Therefore many of them believed, and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as men. But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was preached by Paul at Berea, they came there also and stirred up the crowds. Then immediately the brethren sent Paul away, to go to the sea; but both Silas and Timothy remained there. So those who conducted Paul brought him to Athens; and receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him with all speed, they departed.”

Standard

Going Back to the Bible

The Role of Scripture...

In Bible Times

- Scripture was the foundation of Israel’s identity and faith (Deut. 6:4-9; Neh. 8:7-8).
- The teachings of Jesus and the writings of the apostles provided guidance for the early church (Lk. 24:27, 44-45; Ac. 2:42-44).
- As long as we have the Bible, we have all we need to please God (Lk. 8:11; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).

In The Restoration Movement

- “Brethren, this is a sufficient rule of faith and practice” (Rice Haggard, 1794).
- “Where the Scriptures speak, we speak; and where the Scriptures are silent, we are silent” (Thomas Campbell, 1809).
- “This is the foundation on which Christians once stood, and on it they can and ought to stand again” (Raccoon John Smith, 1832).

In The Church Today

- We must value scripture over tradition (Mt. 15:3-6; 23:23, 25-28).
- We must believe what happened then can happen now (Jn. 14:12; Jas. 5:16-18).
- We must continue to use the scriptures to draw people to God (Jn. 5:39; 8:31-32; 12:32; 17:17).