

**Trusts the Word of God**  
***Strong and Faithful* 2 Peter 1:16-21**  
**Discussion Questions**

What are some of the primary reasons that people struggle to trust the Bible?

Studies show that less than 40% of those who follow Jesus said they opened their bibles 3-4 times per year. Do you find that surprising? What do you think keeps people from being engaged in God's word?

**READ - 2 Peter 1:16-18; Matthew 17:1-9**

- What were the false teachers teaching that influenced Peter to write this text? What did they believe about the person of Jesus, his return, and the scriptures?
- What was culturally significant about Peter's usage of the term *cleverly devised myths*? How would that resonate with Greek thinkers of the day?
- When giving an eyewitness account why did Peter leverage the story commonly referred to as the Transfiguration?

**READ - Matthew 17:1-9 (TRANSFIGURATION)**

- What's significant about the appearance of Moses and Elijah at the moment of Jesus' transfiguration? What did their presence represent?
- What does it mean that the Bible is a unified story that leads to Jesus?
- Why is it significant that Jesus fulfilled all 400 Old Testament prophecies concerning the messiah? What does that teach us about the origin of the Scripture?

**READ - 2 Peter 1:19-21**

- What does Peter mean when he says that the scriptures *were not produced by the will of man*?
- God used men to write the Bible, but it says *they were carried along by the Holy Spirit*, what do you think that means?
- Why is it significant that *the Bible wasn't man-made, but God-made*? what difference does that make in how we think about the Bible?
- How does the truth that the Bible is the inspired word of God give us hope that despite the challenges we might face along the way, we can still read and understand the scriptures?

**Application & Reflection**

Which of the gospel identities (citizen, family, missionary) does this message most intersect?

Do you have a regular rhythm of engaging God in his word? If so, what tools have you found helpful in helping you understand the scriptures? If not, what's keeping you from starting?

How can we become a small group community that helps one another develop a love for God's word?