

# 10 RODS OF TRUTH



10 RODS OF TRUTH IN  
A RAGING WORLD



**RECLAIMING SANITY**

September 22

**RECLAIMING BIBLICAL LITERACY**

September 29

**RECLAIMING THE GOSPEL**

October 6

**RECLAIMING SPIRITUALITY**

October 13

**RECLAIMING THE NEXT GENERATION**

October 20

**RECLAIMING MARRIAGE & FAMILY**

October 27

**RECLAIMING POLITICS**

November 3

**RECLAIMING THE RAINBOW**

November 10

**RECLAIMING MASCULINITY & FEMININITY**

November 17

**RECLAIMING LIFE**

November 24

## CHAPTER 2: RECLAIMING BIBLICAL LITERACY

### Commentary

Christians are to be people of the Word, and therefore, we ought to be people of words. Our Savior is the Word made flesh (John 1:1) so we ought to be lovers of words. God chose to communicate to us through written word, but our love for Him and His Word has grown cold. Our culture, not surprisingly, increasingly hates the written word. Christians are often careless with our words and live in the tragic inferno of our own making (James 3:5-6). We know how to read and write but that's not our problem. Our heads are able but our hearts are not. A scientist can see that God created mankind male and female (Genesis 1:27-28), but will not necessarily accept that truth. Apart from acceptance of truth in the heart, understanding in the head becomes a fruitless endeavor (Proverbs 1:7-10). Affection for God is the only way to full understanding. How do we train our affections back to being a people of the Word? The prescription for our infirmity is reading the right kind of stories.

In the *Voyage of the Dawn Treader* by C.S. Lewis, there is a boy named Eustace Clarence Scrubb (and he almost deserved it). He fancied himself well read because he read books full of facts. However, "Eustace had read only the wrong books. They had a lot to say about exports and imports and governments and drains, but they were weak on dragons." And dragons abound in America. We live with the simultaneous blessing and curse of a target rich environment. The good news is we have a book, strong on dragons, about a dragon slayer, who teaches his disciples how to properly place dragons in the ground.

The arc of Scripture is this, "Kill the dragon, get the girl." Humanity's journey began with a wedding and our course is destined to end with a wedding. That much is fixed. Our present difficulty is that there is an ancient serpent (dragon) who seeks to steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10). Satan, the dragon (Rev. 20:2), bends truths to tell lies. He used Scripture to attack Jesus, the dragon slayer (Isaiah 27:1) after all. (See Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13). Jesus responded in kind with Scripture with both heart and mind in perfect accord. We are to be imitators (Ephesians 5:1, 1 John 2:6) of our older Brother (Hebrews 2:11, Romans 8:29).

We, as followers of Christ, are commanded to know God's story (2 Timothy 2:15, 2 Peter 3:14-18, Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 11:18-23, John 14:15-17, 1 John 5:1-5). Scripture is God speaking. Matthew 22:31 Jesus said, "Have you not read what God said to you?" and then He proceeded to quote Scripture (Exodus 3:6). God has chosen to speak to us through the written word in the form of a story. Jesus communicated often in parables (Hosea 12:10, Acts 24:14). The Law is told not as a stand alone list, but in the story of Moses culminating in receiving the Law at Mount Sinai. The Prophets are not just a series of men forthtelling and foretelling but communicated within their testimony in their time. God is continuing to write His story through us, his people, His Church. If you want God to speak to you, read His Word. If you want God to speak to you audibly, read His Word out loud.

The Latin expression *Ad fontes* or "back to the sources" is what we need to do. Ask the question: What does Scripture say? Always go back to the Word for your principles. The Bereans did not get together with plausible arguments and theories. Instead they ran to the Scripture first. We must do the same in all things.

In how we raise our family... to the Word

In how we spend our money... to the Word

In how we have fellowship... to the Word

In how we worship God... to the Word

In how we make career decisions...to the Word

In how we decide our politics...to the Word

In how we interpret ethical situations...to the Word

The Word dictates our worldview, and worldview defines all of your decisions.

Reclamation Charge: Become a Berean (Acts 17:10-11) and seek to get to know your God in order to see the continuity in the book written by the best storyteller. Make a conscious effort to add reading in small increments when they become available. Meditating on Scripture, like praying, ought to be a continuous posture not just a scheduled event.



## Small Group Questions

- 1) Do you agree that the bible is the Word of God? Why?
- 2) What does your time of bible reading look like and when do you feel you are getting the most out of your time in God's word?
- 3) You might have heard someone say they just randomly open their bible and start reading. While God can use this, it is much more wise and beneficial to read through whole books of the bible to gain a deeper understanding of the storyline. What is your favorite book of the bible and why?

# RECLAIM