

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

The Operator's Manual for Life

With Ryan Dawson, Lead Pastor
April 26, 2020



The Bible is God's operator's manual for life.

2 Timothy 3:14-17 (NLT) But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you. ¹⁵ You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for all of life:

1 Timothy 5:18 (NLT) For the Scripture says, "You must not muzzle an ox to keep it from eating as it treads out the grain." And in another place, "Those who work deserve their pay!"

2 Peter 3:16 (NLT) "...speaking of these things in all of his [Paul's] letters. Some of his comments are hard to understand, and those who are ignorant and unstable have twisted his letters to mean something quite different, just as they do with other parts of Scripture. And this will result in their destruction."

2 Peter 1:20-21 (NLT) "Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, ²¹ or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God."

- **Scripture shows us what is right.** v. 16 "it teach[es] us what is true..."

- **Scripture shows us what is not right.** v. 16 "it make[s] us realize what is wrong in our lives"

Hebrews 4:12 (NLT) "For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires."

- **Scripture shows us how to get right.** v. 16 "it corrects us when we are wrong..."

1 John 1:9

- **Scripture shows us how to stay right.** v. 16 "it teaches us to do what is right. 17 God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work."

Big Idea: Remain faithful to the authority of Scripture for all of life.

Why is it important that we remain faithful to the authority of Scripture?

- **We are accountable to a loving God.**

2 Timothy 4:1 (NLT) "I solemnly urge you in the presence of God and Christ Jesus, who will someday judge the living and the dead when he comes to set up his Kingdom."

John 14:6

- **We cannot be our "own" truth.**

2 Timothy 4:2-4 (NLT) "Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favourable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching. ³ For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will reject the truth and chase after myths."

- **We have a mission to accomplish.**

2 Timothy 4:5 (NLT) "But you should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you."



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we live out our identity as a Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

**The Operator’s Manual for Life
#2 of 3 - April 26, 2020**

1) Take some time to discuss how your IC has been and will live out the Kingdom of Jesus together.

- In what ways have we been living like family recently? How will we live out our family identity in the coming week?
- How have we lived as servants to one another or to our world this past week? What needs or opportunities to serve is God asking us to lean into?
- How have we lived on mission where we live, work, play, or went this past week? Who do we know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus?

2) How did the message resonate with you? What questions or comments did it raise for you?

3) Has there been a time in our life when you have disregarded the “operator’s manual” for a machine or tool? How did that go for you? What can you learn from this experience as you approach the Bible as “God’s operator’s manual for life?”

4) Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17, 2 Peter 3:16, and 2 Peter 1:20-21. What do you learn about “inspiration” of the Bible from these passages?

5) Read and reflect on 2 Tim. 3:14-17 and Hebrews 4:12. How does the Bible help us understand what is right and not right in our lives? What role does the Holy Spirit play in this process? Describe a personal example of how you have seen this take place in your own life.

6) What aspects of Scripture do you struggle to understand or agree with? How does the teaching in these passages help you address your struggle? How does the person of Christ revealed in John 14:6 help resolve this for you?

7) Read 2 Timothy 4:1-5. Why is it important to remain faithful to Scripture? Which aspects are the most significant for you and why?

8) Evaluate your life. To what degree is the Bible the “Operator’s Manual for your life”? Highly agree Mostly agree Agree Slightly agree Don’t agree

9) Where do you need to “remain faithful to the authority of Scripture for all of life”? Ask God to show you where He would have you remain faithful to His Word? Listen to the Holy Spirit and write out what you hear God saying to you. What action steps is God asking you to take today?



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