

The Bible

We are a part of a growing church! And as our church grows, it's good for us as a congregation to periodically review our core beliefs. We are a part of the Evangelical Free Church of America and for the next few weeks we will be reviewing the core beliefs from the EFCA's Statement of Faith which is also LakeView's Statement of Faith. We've condensed the 10 points down to 6 for this series.

First up is our belief about the Bible. *We believe that the Bible is the literal Word of God, inspired by God to human authors. In the original writings (which have since been translated into modern languages), it is without error and contains the complete revelation of God's will for salvation. It is the ultimate authority by which we should judge all reality. We believe all that it teaches and requires, obey all its commands, and trust all that it promises.*

The Bible is such an amazing gift! The King of the Universe has spoken to us and we get to read what He has said anytime we want. 2 Timothy 3:16 says, "all Scripture is God-breathed," which means everything in the Bible came from Him. We get to read the things He's done, the things He's said, the thoughts He has, the promises He's made, and the things He commands. What a priceless treasure!

In 1994, Bill Gates spent \$30.8 million to purchase a 72 page notebook filled with scientific observations and drawings written by Leonardo da Vinci. How unimaginably more valuable are the written words of the creator of everything that exists, has ever existed, or ever will exist! But do we actually believe it?

On top of it being a precious gift to humanity, the Bible is also the ultimate authority by which we judge everything. Every decision we make, whether in our personal life, in our family, at work, or at church must be directed by Scripture. It is not only God's revelation to us about Himself, it instructs us how to live our lives. After 2 Timothy 3:16 says that "all Scripture is God-breathed," it says, "and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." Let's not just read the Bible, let's actually do what it says!

As a group, discuss these questions:

- Is there anything keeping me from reading the Bible on a daily basis?
- How can we encourage each other to be more intentional to daily read the Bible?
- Then pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you a hunger for the Word of God!