



Getting the big picture of all of Scripture

Part 1: The Cautionary Tale

The sermon opened with the story of "Galloping Gertie," the Tacoma Narrows Bridge. Despite being a marvel of engineering, a small compromise—using solid steel girders instead of open trusses to save money—turned the bridge into a sail that eventually tore itself apart.

1. **Icebreaker:** Have you ever bought something that looked great on the outside but turned out to be poorly made or "cheaply built"? What happened?
2. **The "Twist":** Gavin mentioned cultural phrases like "Follow your heart" or "You do you." Why are these "blueprints" for life so dangerous according to **Jeremiah 17:9**?
3. **Personal Reflection:** In what areas of your life are you tempted to "lean on your own understanding" rather than the Lord's manual (**Proverbs 3:5-6**)?

Part 2: The Power of the Word

We discussed the "State of the Bible" report, which showed that engaging with Scripture at least four times a week drastically changes behavior and mental health.

1. **The 4x Effect:** Which statistic from the report (regarding risk behavior, emotional well-being, or sharing our faith) surprised you the most?
2. **Transformative Reading:** Why do you think there is such a massive jump in life satisfaction and spiritual growth when we move from "occasional" reading to "consistent" engagement?

Part 3: Appearance vs. Power

2 Timothy 3:1-5 warns us about people having the "appearance of godliness but denying its power."

1. **Definition:** How would you describe the difference between "looking spiritual" and "being transformed"?
2. **The Mirror:** Read **2 Corinthians 3:18**. If we are meant to be transformed "from glory to glory," what is the "mirror" we should be looking into?

3. **The Danger:** Paul mentions Jannes and Jambres (the Egyptian magicians) who could mimic miracles but didn't know God. Where do we see "mimicry" or "counterfeit godliness" in our culture today?

Part 4: The Blueprint for Success

2 Timothy 3:16-17 tells us that all Scripture is "breathed out by God" and is profitable for four specific things.

Tool	Definition	The Metaphor
Teaching	Showing us what is true.	The Map
Reproof	Pointing out where we are off course.	The GPS
Correction	Showing us how to get back on the path.	Rerouting
Training	Showing us how to stay on the path.	Driver's Ed

- Application:** Which of these four do you find hardest to accept? Why?
- The Slippery Slope:** The sermon warned that treating the Bible as figurative or "ancient history" leads to a bridge that won't hold. How does viewing the Bible as "God-breathed" change how you read difficult passages?

Part 5: Closing Challenge

Read **Matthew 7:24-27** together.

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock..."

- **The Storm:** The storm hit both the wise man and the foolish man. What "winds" are currently testing your foundation?
- **The Commitment:** What is one practical step you can take this week to ensure you are engaging with the Word at least four times?

Prayer Request:

Close by praying for one another to have the courage to build on the Rock, asking the Holy Spirit to move us from "appearance" to "power."