
SUMMARY

We've spent the last 4 messages covering how the Bible has come from God to us. These messages were aimed at helping us understand what the Bible is. Last Sunday's message begins a new section in this series where we begin focusing on how to read the Bible. This message is really part 1 of 2 that covers the basics of hermeneutics or the science and art of interpreting the Bible.

GROUP QUESTIONS *(For use with your family, roommates, Community or Bible Group, or individually)*

Share something from the message or passages that surprised, encouraged, or troubled you.

Read 2 Timothy 2.1-19.

These are some of Paul's final words as he is nearing the end of his ministry (see 2 Tim 4.6-8). How would these be encouraging for Timothy? How are they encouraging for you?

2 Timothy 2.15 is clear about the importance of "rightly handling the word of truth." Discuss your thoughts on this. Is it scary? Easy? Have you ever considered the importance of this before?

How have you seen the word mishandled? Have you ever mishandled the word or realized you were off on a particular interpretation?

Discuss the importance of getting *meaning* from the original author vs. from the reader. What's an example of a bad question that is often asked in small group bible studies (mentioned in the sermon)? What might be some better questions we could ask about a passage?

Discuss your thoughts on the importance of understanding the historical context of a passage when reading it. How does approaching the scriptures with the lens that they are an ancient work change how we read the Bible?

Read Psalm 111.2 and Romans 15.4. How do these verses encourage us to read the Bible?

RESOURCES

The Journey from Text to Translations, Paul D. Wegner

The Bible Project Podcast and Videos: *How to Read The Bible*

ESV Study Bible

New Bible Commentary, Edited by Motyer, Carson, etc.

For the Love of God's Word: An Introduction to Biblical Interpretation, Kostenberger and Patterson

Please email Pastor Rob with any questions rob@seasidechurch.com