

Conversation Starters

- What do you know about the Bible?
- How did you learn what you know?

Discuss

Paul's third challenge for living our lives for Jesus is to stay faithful in the midst of an unfaithful world by anchoring your life in the Word of God - the Bible. God used people to write the books of the Bible, but He was so involved in the process that they wrote exactly what He wanted. To stay anchored, we need to read it and then follow it.

"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. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work." ([2 Timothy 3:16-17, NLT](#))

- How do you view the Bible?
- How often do you read it?
- What keeps you from reading it?

We looked at three possible reasons why we could be limiting the Bible's presence and power in our life: The Cosmic Exception Clause, Food Bar and Compromise Game.

"If someone claims, 'I know God,' but doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did." ([1 John 2:4-6, NLT](#))

- Have you ever made an exemption for yourself to not follow what God says?
- Do you pick out parts of the Bible that you like, and omit others?
- Are there parts of the Bible that you disagree with?

The Bible confronts our life in every way possible. We can either read it with a surrendered heart, or with a defensive and rebellious spirit that prevents God from changing us to live the best life He has for us.

"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. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable." ([Hebrews 4:12-13, NLT](#))

- How has God worked in your life so far?
- Are there areas of your life that you'd rather not give God leadership of?
- What needs to change in your life to allow God to change you through His Word?

Next Steps

Spend some time reading the Bible this week. Approach it with a surrendered heart, asking yourself the questions below. Pray about your heart towards the Bible and invite God to speak to you through it.

- What attitude do I need to change?
- What do I need to start doing or stop doing?
- What things do I need to stop believing or start believing?
- What relationships do I need to work on?
- What ministry should I be having with others?

Nov. 25: [The Prophets: Big Picture Bible Study](#)

Dec. 2: [The Grounds Online Book Club: A Christmas Carol](#)

Dec. 18-23: [The Christmas at Meck Experience](#)

Continued Reading

2 Timothy 3:[1-5](#), [14-17](#); [Jeremiah 1:9](#); [2 Peter 1:20-21](#); [1 John 2:4-6](#); [Hebrews 4:12-13](#)

Prayer

God, thank you for the Bible. Thank you for the wisdom and instruction that it gives us for life. Help us to look at our hearts honestly and root out anything that wants to rebel against what you have and want to teach us.