

Lesson 1: Why It Matters

“How do you move a mountain? One spoonful at a time.”

-Old Chinese Proverb

Goal: Without diminishing the supernatural, life-saving and life-changing power in any way, the hope is that you will be given tools to see the Bible as a book that can be known and to understand that God has given us the gift of the Holy Spirit who is our guide to truth. We don't need to rely on a commentary to figure it out, we only need to face the mountain, spoon in hand, and let the Holy Spirit do His job. This is simply a way to “dig” into God's Word in a more organized way.

Be content with learning a spoonful at a time. You don't have to know everything about every single book of the Bible right now, but you can learn something every time you open its pages.

1. The Bible is where we learn_____.

John chapter 1 identifies Jesus as “the Word.” *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”*

The English *word* is the Greek *logos*, which is where we get words like biology and theology. All of our “logy” words are borrowed from the Greek word *logos*, which means *the study of*. When we think of logo as a symbol, it brings with it a depth of knowledge. Jesus was the Logos.

In her book *Made for More*, Hannah Anderson defines *logos* this way:

When we use *logos* in the vernacular, it means study or learning; it includes the idea behind the word. In fact, we really can't separate words and ideas at all. If you are struggling to communicate a thought clearly, the problem isn't that you simply "haven't found the right words yet," but that your thoughts are not completely formed yet. In this sense, *logos* means both the expression of an idea (the word) and the thought that initiated it. So, when John chooses to identify Jesus as the *Logos*, he is telling us that Jesus is the perfect embodiment of God's thought.

When Jesus came to earth, He represented everything that God wanted the world to know about Himself. Jesus was the Word, the *logos*, the mind of God revealed to man, through the Son of Man. Jesus left us with the gift of the Holy Spirit to teach us the written word, the *logos*. The Bible is where we learn the mind of God.

2. The Bible is where _____ is revealed.

"For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations." (Psalm 100:5)

"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth forever." (1 Peter 1:24-25a)

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15

The word translated approved is dokimos, which means proven, tested, and shown to be of high quality. The phrase rightly divide means to be able to handle accurately, to cut straight.

3. The Bible is our only hope for _____.

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:32)”

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” (John 17:17)

Sanctification is the job of the Holy Spirit.