

## October 30<sup>th</sup> – God-Breathed Scripture

*“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

Guinness World Records says there is little doubt that the Bible is the world's best-selling and most widely distributed book. A survey by the Bible Society concluded that around 2.5 billion copies were printed between 1815 and 1975, but more recent estimates put the number at more than 5 billion. Those are amazing numbers, but what makes the Bible so special? Why do so many people desire to get a copy in their hands? Why do millions of people give the Bible to others?

The answer is very simple. The Bible is not just another book – it is the very word of God. Paul said, “All Scripture is God-breathed.” That means every paragraph, every line, and every word. Jesus said that even the smallest “jot or tittle” of Scripture would not pass away until everything it prophesies is fulfilled. Because the Bible comes to us from God Himself, it is useful for doctrine (what to believe), reproof & correction (when we fall short), and instruction in righteousness (for serving God).

Verse 16 tells us where Scripture comes from and what it can do, but verse 17 tells us the purpose of Scripture – “that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” Think of it like this. We are soldiers in God’s army. No soldier goes into battle unprepared. A soldier secures the right clothes, weapons, supplies, etc. Soldiers of war are outfitted by their country, but soldiers of the cross are equipped by God through His Word. And praise the Lord, His Word is adequate to help us complete every good work He’s called us to do.