Intro:

Matthew 24:24

1 Timothy 4:1, 1:13

1. All Christians will face struggles with their Faith

2 Timothy 4:10

Luke 8:4-15

Faith struggles are part of our spiritual journey

2 Timothy 4:3

Without a strong foundation of faith in the truth of God's Word, a person can be easily deceived.

Matthew 7:21-23

There are basics that ALL Christians must adhere to.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

2. Scripture must be our reference point.

Once you answer the question about the reliability of the Bible — that it is what it claims to be, "God's Word to us" — from there you can build a foundation of faith that lasts a lifetime.

Psalm 119:89, 105

2 Timothy 3:16

Let's say God is as the Bible describes Him to be:

- Invisible
- All-powerful, all-knowing, everywhere present at the same time, never-changing
- Holy, good, loving, merciful, faithful, gracious, just and righteous
- · He is Creator

If He truly IS all of those things, wouldn't He want to REVEAL Himself to His creation — to mankind?

- What would be the best way to do this?
- The answer... a book the Bible

If the Bible IS God's Word, the I am going to APPROACH it differently.

- With reverence because it came from God
- With a desire to seek to know truth

If the Bible IS God's Word, then how I RESPOND to the book changes.

3. <u>It is absolutely imperative we are convinced</u> the Bible IS God's Word

We will never get much of anything else settled in matters of faith and relating to God until we are sure the Bible is the written Word of Almighty God

Our **SALVATION** depends upon it.

1 Peter 1:22-23

Our **ASSURANCE** of salvation depends upon it.

1 John 5:13

Our **SANCTIFICATION** depends upon it.

John 17:17

Destroy the credibility of the Bible, you destroy Christianity

Revelation 22:18-19

4. There is a WAR over the Word of God

There are those who DESPISE and DENY it.

There are those who only give LIP SERVICE to it.

There are those who TRULY BELIEVE it.

NOTES:		 	