

The Bible

- Opening Announcements
- Opening Prayer

Q: Why is the Bible Special to YOU (personally)?

Q: What's your greatest challenge when encountering the Bible?

Table Time....

READ: Hebrews 4:12-13 "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

Q: According to verse 13, "WHAT" is the Word of God?

Q: What does it "do"?

Q: What is verse 13 about? Is this "good news" or "bad news"?

READ: 2 Timothy 3:16-17 "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

Q: According to verse 16, "WHO" is the "source" of scripture?

Q: What are the benefits?

READ: 2 Peter 1:21 "For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. "

Q: What is the "source" of "prophecy"?

Q: What IS a "prophecy"?

BIG GROUP Debrief...

READ: John 17:13-16 *"But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵ I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth."*

Q: According to verse 13, "where" is Christ's "joy fulfilled"? What's the significance of this?

(Side note: Just prior to John 17:13, in John 16:33, Jesus said *" I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."*)

Q: How does "joy" and "peace" in the face of trials and tribulations, encourage you to spend time with Jesus in His Word?

Q: What does Jesus' prayer reveal in verse 14? How do you see that reality around you today?

Q: According to verse 15, what is interesting about Jesus prayer? WHY does He pray this? (Hint: Matthew 28:19-20)

Q: What is significant about verse 16? What "means of grace" did Jesus give us to "make" us "not of the world"?

Q: What is significant about verse 17?

READ: John 18:37-38 *"Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸ Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"*

Q: What is interesting to you about this exchange?

Q: How is Pilate's wrestling with the idea of "truth" similar to what you see around us today?

PRACTICAL:

This week, follow along the daily Bible Reading Plan and consider the following questions:

Q: What did I learn about God in today's reading?

Q: What does that teach me about "me"?

Q: So IF the reading today is true, what do "I" need to do about it? How can I apply this?

- spend some time in prayer about that!
- Consider journaling this!