

WORD

WHAT

What does the Bible say?

¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:16,17

The Bible is the primary basis of our faith. As Christians, we refer to it as a guideline for living. More than that, we are encouraged to read the Bible regularly and know it by heart. The following reasons point out why the Bible is more than just a simple, ordinary book.

- **The Bible is God's Word.**
All Scripture is God-breathed . . .

2 Timothy 3:16

Though written by people, the Bible is the only book that is "God-breathed." This means it was God Himself who made sure that the message He wanted to convey is written down in a medium that people understand. Knowing that God is able to choose writers and stories of people for His purposes, we conclude that the Bible is indeed God's Word. Why do you believe that the Bible is the written Word of God?

- **The Bible has divine authority.**
. . . useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness . . .

2 Timothy 3:16

Since it is God's Word, then the Bible has a God-ordained authority. It means it has the final say on how we ought to live our lives and on what to believe. As followers of Jesus, this is the standard by which we can measure whether or not we're following God's ways. What uses of the Bible did Paul identify?

- **The Bible is beneficial.**
. . . so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:17

Living according to God's Word brings us many benefits and is proof that we are true followers of God (John 14:15). Being rooted in the Word helps us withstand life's challenges (Luke 6:47-49). Give an example of how reading God's Word helped you in a certain situation.

SO WHAT *What is the relevance of the Word to my life?*

- How does the Word affect your life right now? What role does it play in the decisions that you make?
- Identify a command or instruction in the Bible that you find hard to follow. What do you think is the reason for this difficulty?
- During times of difficulty, how has God's Word helped you? What lessons did you learn from those experiences?

NOW WHAT *How do I apply the Word to my life?*

- What can you commit to do regularly to help you develop the habit of reading God's Word?
- How convinced are you that God's Word is the final authority in how we should live our lives? What steps can you do to develop a lifestyle of obedience to the Bible as you follow Jesus?
- Which message from the Bible do you find most relevant in your situation right now? What promises can you claim and hold on to as you go through it?