

20th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, October 6, 2024
“The 12 Keys to Spiritual Maturity ~ Key #5: Loving God’s Word”
2 Timothy 3:10-17

The Bible is _____. It’s uniquely _____, and has sold more copies than any other book ever published. The Bible is uniquely _____, and over the centuries it has changed countless lives and had a profound impact on the development of modern society. And the Bible is uniquely _____—in it people have found comfort, strength, hope, joy, peace, and life.

Although the Bible does contain _____ that show us how life works best, it isn’t primarily about us and what we should or shouldn’t be doing. It’s primarily about _____ and what He’s already done.

Most of the people in the Bible aren’t _____ at all, but rather ordinary people like us; people who make mistakes, struggle with faith and fear, and run away from God.

“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.” (Hebrews 4:12)

The ultimate goal of reading, studying, and meditating on Scripture is _____, hearing God speak to us and _____ that word out in our daily lives.

The _____ of all wisdom, knowledge, and guidance, indeed, everything we need to know about how to _____ God and to serve Him in the world can be found within the pages of Scripture.

#1. _____.

“All Scripture is God-breathed...” (2 Timothy 3:16)

This is probably the most important testimony to the Scripture’s _____ origin and character in the Bible.

• Scripture is _____ by God.
inspired = *theo-pneustos* =

Consequently, what Scripture says, God says because the Bible is God _____.

• _____ Scripture is inspired.
All 66 books of the Bible are _____ inspired.

• All Scripture is _____ and _____.

Although these two words both affirm the _____ of Scripture, and are often used interchangeably, they differ primarily in _____, and focus on different aspects of reliability.

Infallibility = the Bible is completely _____ and cannot fail in matters of faith, doctrine, and moral living.

Inerrancy = the Bible is completely free from _____ in all matters—whether related to theology, history, science, or any other subject.

Both doctrines affirm the Bible’s _____ inspiration and _____, because, simply put, the Bible is from God and God cannot _____.

Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus never appeals to anything else, but the _____. And so, there can be no doubt that He _____ them to be the infallible and inerrant Word of God. And we have no choice, but to believe the _____.

Do you believe that the Bible is inspired and God breathed?

Do you believe that it’s infallible & inerrant?

Do you love the Word?

#2. _____.

“...and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.” (2 Timothy 3:15)

Jesus is the _____ point of all Scripture, it’s all about Him. The message of _____ history from Genesis to Revelation is the message of salvation through faith in God’s _____.

Every verse tells us what God has been doing, what God is doing, or what God will yet do in the accomplishment of His great purpose to _____ a people for Himself, through the _____.

The entire Bible is the story, one way or another, of the _____ pronounced in Genesis 3:15 after the _____: “The seed of the woman will crush the head of Satan.”

Being like Christ makes us _____. It’s a sign of maturity. And Scripture is the chief _____ to knowing Him better.

Do you want to know Jesus more?

Do you want to know how to please Him?

Do you love the Word?

#3. _____.

“...so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:17)

thoroughly equipped = perfect =

The Scriptures complete us; they’re _____. And, together with the Holy Spirit, they can bring us to _____, to the full stature of Christ.

No matter what lies before us, no matter what duties, challenges, and sacrifices we’ll be called upon to meet, the Bible will completely _____ us for them.

The Holy Spirit uses Scripture to _____ and perfects what is _____. Thoroughly enabling us for the challenge of every good work in whatever God asks us to do.

This completeness involves _____ four facets of our life.

- Teaching, which is instructing the _____.
- Rebuking, which is convincing or educating our _____ and _____.
- Correcting, which involves healing our _____ and _____.
- Training, which is the transformation of our _____ and living.

The Word of God comes in all its rich divine authority and _____ our lives, challenging us, encouraging us to believe the _____, and helping us to find love, joy, peace, contentment and deliverance from despair.

How complete are you?

**Do you allow yourself to be taught, rebuked, corrected,
and trained by the Bible?
Do you love God’s word?**

#4. _____.

In verses 10-14, Paul tells us that the objective reality of what he’s saying here is subjectively confirmed by _____ proof.

“Now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness...” (2 Timothy 3:10)

“But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings...” (2 Timothy 3:14-15)

Timothy had witnessed first hand how the Scriptures had _____ the lives of his family, the Christian community around him, and even Paul!

He saw how the church is kept, _____, and sustained, and _____ by the Word.

In Psalm 1, we’re introduced to a “blessed man,” who we’re told, “_____ in the law of God (which is the Word) and in that law he meditates day and night.”

Here is someone who really _____ the Bible. There’s no _____ between his faith and their enjoyment. His chief end is to _____ God and to enjoy Him forever. This is his preferred _____. He is _____ by Scripture. (P)

If you think about it, this is a _____ of faith for every believer—not only that we have the correct _____ of Biblical doctrine and _____ it diligently every day, but that we actually _____ it.

There’s nothing quite like the power of _____ to strengthen desire.

However, when it comes to the Bible, the biggest difficulty isn’t the Word itself, but our own _____—or _____ of appetite

We can get so _____ with the busyness of life that we don’t have time, or we forget to feed on God’s word—except on Sunday morning. Or our _____ can be for other books or pastimes, such as scrolling on our phones our binging on Netflix. We can also fall into the trap of seeing Bible study as something we have to do for our faith, or for _____ and discipline, and not for pleasure. And before we know it, we’ve ceased to _____ in the law of the Lord.

The reality is, love for Jesus is the strongest _____ for reading the scriptures. And so, if we have little desire for the Bible we need to ask ourselves if we, like the church Ephesus, have _____ or first love.

It all _____ here.

“Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long.” (Psalm 119:97)
What is your relationship with the Bible?

**Do you feed on Scripture every day?
Do you read it out of duty or for pleasure?
Do you love God’s Word?**



Is Loving God’s Word a key in your spiritual key chain?