

Reveal – “Because God Said So”

Week 1 – October 10, 2021

Scripture: John, 2 Timothy, Romans

Grab your Bible and a few people to connect with. Look up the verses below and share your thoughts. It's that easy!

Share: Is there a book that you love? Consider favorite books from your youth and/or adult life. Why do you love this book?

Read the scripture from John, 2 Timothy and Romans (noted below) together: Take turns reading if you prefer. Enjoy the different Bible translations we each read.

Discuss the following context:

Over the centuries there have been multiple sayings people based their lives upon which have been attributed to the Bible. Many of these truisms are half truths and many are not in the Bible at all. This series will look at four of these well-known sayings and attempt to uncover the truer meaning behind these cultural beliefs and how they can be framed within scripture and the heart of God.

There are over 30,000 Protestant denominations and much of the reason there are so many is because a particular group of people disagree on what the Bible says and how the Gospel is supposed to be lived out in community. Over the years the phrase “Because God said so” is used as an easy way of making a clear declaration of truth and drawing a line in the sand. But could there be more nuance? Of course God’s word is true but how human beings interpret, understand, and live out God’s truths is much more complicated than it may seem.

Share your thoughts about following questions:

1. There can be mystery and wonder when it comes to God and the Bible. Many times individuals and groups of people try to deduce the scripture down to a simple instructional manual for life. What can happen with this approach? What does this do to the mystery and wonder of God and the Bible?
2. Studying scripture is a good thing, however, without God’s voice it is merely diligent study (John 5:37-38). It is possible to read the Bible, study the Bible, and only hear our own voice, or the voice of other teachers, and never encounter the living and breathing God behind the words.
 - a. What does 2 Timothy 3:16 tell us about the goal of the Bible?
 - b. When fallible and imperfect human beings pick up the Bible, read it, try to understand it, talk about it, and teach it, is it possible we will not get it right sometimes? Why?
 - c. What can help us from being people who know a lot about the Bible, and next to nothing about God?
3. As we handle, treasure, and try to understand the Bible, consider how to posture ourselves. We are not meant to read the Bible alone. We read it with God – God is with us and in us.
 - a. How can we handle the Bible with humility and honor? (Romans 11:33-34)
 - b. How can we embrace Jesus as the true Word? (John 14:16-17, John 14:26, John 1:1-4, and John 1:14)

Pray together: Ask each other to share what is on your heart today. Thank God that the Bible points us to Him and in Him we live and breathe. Pray that we can embrace the treasure of the written word of God by reading, studying, meditating, with a sense of awe, wonder, mystery, humility, and dependency on the Word who lives within you.