

Read Colossians 3:16

The Bible is the best selling, most translated book in History. It is the foundation for what we believe and live as Christians.

We're going to discover the value of the word of God in our life. It's a discipline we're aware of, but it's a discipline we're not always good at following. So let's jump in and discover God's Word.

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17

The word of God is God's spoken Word to us. Without breath we have no voice. Breath produces the sound that comes out of our mouth. This word is God's spoken voice to our life.

Read Psalm 12:6

His words are pure, or flawless. When we speak, everything that comes out isn't always perfect. Our mouth gets in gear before our mind gets engaged, but not God's. His words are pure and we can hold on to them.

Read Psalm 19:7-8

The word is God's law, statutes (God's Instruction) Psalm 19 reiterates to us that his word is perfect, it's right, it's pure. It tells us that it is trustworthy.

You may say, "Well I can tell people I'm trustworthy, but it makes it more reliable that I'm trustworthy when something or someone besides myself backs it up."

Great point!

Let's look at why the Bible is trustworthy:

- It's historically correct (The recordings from the word of God are primarily eye witness accounts)
Archeology has discovered the places and activities that have been discussed in the Bible.
When copied throughout history, it wasn't copied word for word, it was copied letter for letter. That means there's no room for spell correction error!
- It's scientifically accurate
 - ISAAC NEWTON wrote of theology and science. In his work titled, "Principia" he said that "This most beautiful system of the sun, planets, and comets, could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful Being.
 - In his book, "Pensees," French mathematician, scientist and philosopher, BLAISE PASCAL wrote, "Faith tells us what the senses cannot, but it is

not contrary to their findings. It simply transcends, without contradicting them."

- ALBERT EINSTEIN said, "Everyone who is seriously interested in the pursuit of science becomes convinced that a spirit is manifest in the laws of the universe- a spirit vastly superior to man, and one in the face of which our modest powers must feel humble."

- JOHANNES KEPLER described science as "thinking God's thoughts after Him." – Science is discovering God's thoughts after He said them. Take for example:

- for years people believed the earth was held up by something. Job 26:7, "He spreads out the northern [skies] over empty space; he suspends the earth over nothing."

- for years people believed the earth to be flat. Isaiah 40:22, "He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth"

- Astronomers at one time believed there were 1000 stars in the sky... now because of space exploration we have learned that to not be true, in fact they say they're infinite. God already told us this...Jeremiah 33:22, "I will make the descendants of David my servant and the Levites who minister before me as countless as the stars of the sky and as measureless as the sand on the seashore."

- No one acknowledged or paid any attention to germs years ago. Surgeries were performed without cleaning instruments. Pasteur came along, a man of faith, and led studies that directed the prevention of disease and germ awareness. Maybe he read Leviticus 13:4, "If the spot on his skin is white but does not appear to be more than skin deep and the hair in it has not turned white, the priest is to put the infected person in isolation for seven days." In other words there is something that is contagious and needs to be quarantined.

- It is prophetically accurate

Over 300 prophecies about Jesus 1000 years before Jesus was born. From his birth to his crucifixion. All coming true. Matthew 26:56, "But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Prophets were describing Roman crucifixion before crucifixion was ever invented.

It takes a lot of faith to believe that everything is random or an accident. 2 Peter 1:21, "For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

- It is thematically unified

There's one theme of redemption with one star of the show. Luke 24:27, "And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he (Jesus) explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself." John 5:39, "You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me" 40 different authors from different continents, written in different time frames, all keeping to one theme.

All other religious books were written by one person.

- It has survived all attacks.
It's one of the most banned and debated books in history, yet it's still the most read, most translated, best selling book throughout time.
Matthew 24:35, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away."
1 Peter 1:24-25, "For, "All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever."

So the word of God is trustworthy. It's perfect it's right and it's pure.

Let's look now at what it does for us. Psalm 19 shows us:

- Restores/refreshes us, meaning it transforms us.
- Brings wisdom
- Brings joy
- Brings light or clarity

Let's discover the metaphorical description of God's word and what it does for us:

- Jeremiah 5:14 – it's fire/ it purifies us, consumes us
- Hebrews 4:12 – it's a sword/ cuts away and destroys what's unneeded in our life
- Jeremiah 23:29 – it's a hammer/ breaks hardness
- 1 Peter 1:23 – it's seed/ produces something in our life
- 1 Peter 2:2 – it's milk/ it nurtures our body and our mind, important to development
- Hebrews 5:12-14 – it's meat/ as we grow we need more to sustain us and provide nutrients. It's our protein.
- Psalm 119:105 – It's a lamp/ allows us to see ahead
- James 1:23-25 – It's a mirror/ it reveals to us the positive and negative in our life

So here's the question we need to ask ourselves. What is the authority of my life...God's word or mine? If God's word is the authority, then I need to go back to what was read in Colossians at the very beginning of this ebook where it said, Let the word of God dwell in you richly.

So to do that, here's what you need to do:

1. Read it.
Make a plan....You can find helpful plans on youversion, at 40ditw.com, you can get a devotional book, start in the gospel of John or the book of Proverbs. Don't start in Exodus or Leviticus!
2. Study it.
Write down thoughts from it.
Remember verses. David said in Psalm 119 he hides the word of God in his heart so that he might not sin against God.

Talk about it with peers or spouse.

Ask questions:

Is there an example to follow or not follow?

Is there a sin to confess?

Is there a truth to understand?

Is there a comfort for me to embrace?

3. Act on it.

Remember how the word is a mirror. James tells us that we can't just hear it or look at it, we have to live it.

Now go explore God's word and let it transform your life!