



Group Guide

What We Believe

November 26, 2023

Main Passage: 2 Timothy 3:13-17

Theological Theme

The Bible is God's Word and is foundational to our faith. It is inerrant and powerfully at work in our lives as we seek to know and obey it.

Introduction

- ❓ What evidence do you see that our country has moved away from believing the Bible is literal and true?
- ❓ How does our belief that the Bible is the inerrant word of God affect/shape the church?

1. Enemies of the Truth (2 Timothy 3:13-15)

Paul wrote to his protegee Timothy amid an anti-Christian society, not unlike ours today. His words of warning, instruction, and encouragement are still applicable, and we do well to give them serious consideration. To live the abundant life Jesus described (John 10:10), we must believe and be empowered by the Word of God.

- ❓ What are some ways people in our society are deceived by sin?
- ❓ Why is the deception of imposters particularly dangerous for the church?
- ❓ Application: Who poured into your life as a spiritual mentor? Who might you care for in this way?

2. Confident in Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16)

One of the best ways to guard against deception is to know God's Word, to know who wrote it, and to live it out. Paul reminded Timothy that all Scripture is God-breathed. Many have written and developed things that can feel inspired, but Paul stressed that Scripture is different because God gave it directly. Every word of Scripture is divinely inspired, and that sets it apart.

- ❓ What are some lies the world teaches about God or humans?
- ❓ How has Scripture shown you where you need to make a change recently? How did you respond? Why are these moments important in our lives?
- ❓ Application: How do you need to respond to the Word of God for further training in righteousness?

3. Thoroughly Equipped (2 Timothy 3:17)

The end goal of receiving God's Word correctly is for every believer to be complete and equipped for the life God has for them. Scripture is for every part of your life. People tend to segment their lives and invite God to work in some areas while seeking to keep control over other areas. For you to be complete and equipped for the work God has for you, you can't hold back.

- ❓ How have you been guilty of compartmentalizing your life to retain control over certain areas? Why is this detrimental?
- ❓ How is God using Scripture to equip you for His purposes right now?
- ❓ Application: How do you need to trust and obey God's Word in a specific situation you are facing right now? How will you respond?

Conclusion

It is important that we have strong convictions about the Word of God. The Bible is the inspired Word from the Lord to teach and equip us for life and godliness. Scripture also convicts and corrects us when we are off base or in sin. When we face challenges from outside or from within, we can look to Scripture for answers and strength.

- ❓ How might you have been deceived, directly or indirectly, about the Word of God? How have you been challenged or encouraged by today's passage?
- ❓ How is Scripture teaching, rebuking, correcting, or training you currently?
- ❓ How will you commit to knowing God's Word more fully so you can be equipped and empowered to do the good works God has for you? How might this better prepare you for gospel conversations in the future?