



## THE UNIQUENESS OF THE BIBLE

1. The Bible consists of **66** "books" written by over **40** authors during a span of over **1300** years.
2. It claims throughout its pages to be **INSPIRED** by the God it describes.
3. Jesus clearly viewed Scripture as an **INFALLIBLE** communication from God:
  - i. **John 10:35** "the Scripture cannot be broken--"
  - ii. **Matthew 5:18** "I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished."
  - iii. **Luke 24:44** "Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."
4. The Bible contains **HUNDREDS** of supernatural prophecies, many of which have been fulfilled and can be verified as accurate today, which support the Bible's claim to inspiration. **NO** other book or writings contain anything similar.
5. Nearly all we know about God & what he has done in the world comes through the **BIBLE**.
6. In the Bible, the Christian has one of his or her most important **RESOURCES** - absolute truth from God that is essential for living the Christian life today.

**Trans:** The Bible is unique – but how do we have it affect our everyday life?

## HOW TO GRASP GOD'S WORD **III:** Hand Illustration. **EX** Have someone come pull Bible away... 5 fingers, 1, etc

### I. **HEARING GOD'S WORD.** (*Romans 10:17* "Faith comes from hearing the Word of God.")

1. Be ready and eager to **HEAR** God.  
**Luke 8:8** *He who has ears to hear, let him hear!*
2. Deal with **ATTITUDES** that prevent hearing God.  
**Luke 8:18** *Consider carefully how you listen...*
3. **TAKE NOTES** on what you hear.  
**Hebrews 2: 1** *We must pay more **careful attention** to what we've heard, so that we do not drift away!*
4. **ACT** on what you hear!  
**James 1:22** *Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. **Do what it says!***  
**EX** JUST DO IT! Service project story (Obeying this verse)

### II. **READING GOD'S WORD.** (*Rev. 1:3* Happy is the one who **reads** this book & obeys what is written in it!)

**How to remember what you read...**

1. **PARAPHRASE** the passage you read in a notebook.
2. **WRITE** down thoughts God gave you in your Bible or notebook.
3. **SHARE** what you read with others.

4. **ACT** on what you read!

**James 1:24-25** But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does. **EX** How often read? DAILY! 20 min/day? (Ideas: One Year, Outloud, color coding, underline)

### III. **STUDYING GOD'S WORD.**

**Acts 17:11** [The Bereans] accepted the message eagerly and studied the Scripture everyday...

**2 Timothy 2:15** Be a good workman ... Know what His Word says and means.

1. The difference between reading and studying the Bible is that **RESOURCES** other than the passage itself are used to gain an understanding of what God is saying in that passage. The resources can be **WITHIN** the Bible or **OUTSIDE** the Bible.

**RESOURCES:** Online; Bible Gateway, Youversion (translations, study helps, maps,

### IV. **MEMORIZING GOD'S WORD.**

**Proverbs 7:2-3** Guard my words as your most precious possession. Write them down, and also keep them deep within your heart.

1. The Spirit of God can only use what we can bring to **MIND**.

**Ephesians 6:17b** ... the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God

2. The **IMPACT** of scripture often depends on what we have memorized.

3. We remember what is **IMPORTANT** to us.

**Psalms 119:72** The law you gave me means more to me than all the money in the world.

4. Three keys to a successful memory program: **REVIEW, REVIEW, REVIEW!**

**RESOURCES:** Memory Madness. / **EX**, 1 verse per week (See list)

### V. **MEDITATING GOD'S WORD.** **EX**. Try NOT to think about a red faced monkey! ;-)

**Psalms 1:2-3** (Those) who are always **meditating** on His Laws ... are like trees along a river bank bearing fruit ... they never wither and whatever they do prospers.

1. Meditation is **FOCUSED THINKING** about a Bible verse in order to discover how I can apply its truth to my own life.

2. Meditation is the key to becoming like **CHRIST**.

**Romans 12:2** ... Be transformed by the **renewing** of your mind.

**1 Cor. 3:18** As we ... **contemplate** the Lord's glory, we are being transformed into His likeness.

3. Meditation is the key to answered **PRAYER**.

**John 15:7** If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

4. Meditation is the key to successful **LIVING**.

**Joshua 1:8** Meditate on it (the Word) day and night, so you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

### VI. **APPLYING GOD'S WORD.**

**John 13:17** Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you **do them**.

1. Ask: What did it **MEAN** to the original hearers?
2. Ask: What is the underlying timeless **PRINCIPLE**?
3. Ask: Where or how could I **PRACTICE** that principle?

**EX**. The "Application Bridge"