

Wk 3 Theology Discussion

Summary Statement:

The Bible is our primary and normative means of special revelation. It contains the very words of God. That should have incredible implications for how much time we spend in and to the degree to which we order our lives after it. Christians believe that the Bible is inspired and authoritative, errant and infallible, and that it is the canon or measuring rod, by which we assess our lives.

Discussion Questions:

1-Does the fact that God breathed out the words of Scripture change the way you read it, or add to your desire to do so?

2-How are you doing with bowing to the Bible's authority in your life? Do you actively submit yourself to it's teaching?

3-Our cultural context struggles to respect ancient sources. We think that new is better. We like updates. How do you process the Christian belief that the Bible is infallible? Are there segments of the Bible's teaching where you struggle not to wish for an update of some kind?

4-How can we apply the Bible as our standard in modern thinking and current events?

*Leader: sketch some of the social landscape in our country. Race riots calling for justice, abortion activists calling for women's rights, trans activists calling for....whatever insanity they're calling for. Based on what? What's their standard for human rights? What's their standard of justice? They don't have one save their feelings and intuitions. God in His kindness, has given His people a standard so that we aren't cast into an endless debate or endless searching for truth, because He's given us a standard.

Ancillary discussion points if the leader chooses to engage/if people ask question along these lines:

-The Church didn't determine the Canon. We discovered it.

-What about the Apocryphal writings?

-Historical errors

-Authorship too late

-Disagreement with the canon (teaching salvation by works- Gospel of Thomas says you have to become a man to be saved, etc...)

-Why canonize Hebrews if we can't pin down Apostolic sanction or authorship?

-It's agreement with existing Canon.

- It's contribution to the clarity of Old and New Covenant relationship.
- It's effect on it's readers is Scripture quality effect.

-Did the N.T. Writers know they were writing Scripture?

-Paul, "The Laborer deserves his wages..." Quoting Lukes Gospel (Luke 10:7) after saying, "The Scripture says..."

-2 Peter 3:16 "As they do the other Scriptures..."

-Did Jesus say that the Apostles would author Scripture?

-John 14:26, "Holy Spirit will bring to your remembrance all that I said..."