

4. How do 2 Peter 1:19-21 and the following passages help you value the Bible and its role in your life?

2 Timothy 3: <sup>15</sup> ...the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Matthew 5: <sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, 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.

5. The Bible is both human and divine. How might God have given us—in our fallen state and in our fallen, broken world—a Bible that is solely divine?

6. What do you need to be doing now (be specific) so that the Bible can be a source of guidance, wisdom, and encouragement when times are hard?

### **Dying Words (A Series on 2 Peter)**

"When Your Life Falls Apart, You Need a Bible that Won't"  
2 Peter 1:19-21

The Bible is a treasure trove of encouragement and \_\_\_\_\_ in the worst of times if you value it and trust it in the best of times.

### **How Much Would it Cost to Have Jesus Endorse a Product? (Jesus & Authority of Scripture)**

Peter's endorsement of Scripture:

- Scripture is completely \_\_\_\_\_.
- We would do \_\_\_\_\_ to pay attention to the message of Scripture.  
"Holy Spirit, my teacher, as I dive into the Bible would you awaken my heart, expand my mind, and shape my identity today."
- Scripture is like a light shining in a \_\_\_\_\_ place.  
Psalm 119: <sup>105</sup> Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.
- The prophets spoke from \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul's endorsement of Scripture in 2 Timothy 3:15-17:

- It is able to make you \_\_\_\_\_ for salvation
- It is "God-breathed"
- It is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness
- It equips the servant of God for every good work.

Jesus had a lot to say about the authority and reliability of Scripture, but his greatest endorsement comes in the form of \_\_\_\_\_ it as from God and as authoritative at every turn in his story.

Jesus clearly \_\_\_\_\_ the Bible, so if you value Jesus and follow Jesus, it simply doesn't make sense if you don't value the Bible Jesus valued and don't follow the Bible Jesus followed.

## The Genius of the AND (God's Word—Divine and Human)

The Bible is both \_\_\_\_\_ and divine.

"This human-divine interplay is called 'concurrency.' In this process, we believe, God prepared specific human beings, through birth, environment, etc., to communicate his word. These human beings genuinely spoke their own words. But the words they used were also just those words that God wanted them to use." (Douglas Moo)

If you ignore the human element...

- It will lead to \_\_\_\_\_ the Bible.

- It's a form of human \_\_\_\_\_.

Who are we to treat the Bible like what WE think God SHOULD have done instead of what he obviously and \_\_\_\_\_ did? You may want a Bible that is ahistorical and above any human limitations, but that's not what you got.

- It requires studious, thinking people to stop \_\_\_\_\_ in order to believe.

You will find churches and movements and denominations that are now, as a whole, intellectually \_\_\_\_\_ because they've consistently failed to apply their intellects to their faith.

"Builders of [great organizations] reject the 'Tyranny of the OR' and embrace the 'Genius of the AND.' They embrace both extremes across a number of dimensions at the same time—purpose AND profit, continuity AND change, freedom AND responsibility, discipline AND creativity, humility AND will, empirical analysis AND decisive action." (Jim Collins)

**"A Bible that is falling apart usually belongs to someone who isn't."**—  
**Charles Spurgeon (Reading God's Word as Life-Giving Conversation)**

"I listened, lamented, and prayed my way through the Bible until my quiet time became more life-giving conversation than boring homework exercise." (Vaneetha Risner)

## Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Why does a daily quiet time in God's Word sometimes feel more like completing a homework assignment than having a life-giving conversation?
3. Read 2 Peter 1:19-21. Peter speaks of God's Word as a light in the darkness. Light and darkness are frequent themes in the Bible. What are the sources of light and their importance in our lives in light of (no pun intended) of the following passages?  
2 Peter 1: <sup>19</sup> We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place...  
John 3: <sup>19</sup> This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.  
Matthew 5: <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.  
Psalm 27: The Lord is my light and my salvation—  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life—  
of whom shall I be afraid?  
Psalm 119: <sup>130</sup> The unfolding of your words gives light;  
it gives understanding to the simple.