



Connect Study
 Core Value #7
 BIBLE AND GOSPEL-CENTRED
 Psalm 119:1-16



**Sermon
 Points**

1. The Bible is God-breathed

But he answered, "It is written,
 "Man shall not live by bread alone,
 but by every word that comes from the **mouth of God.**" (Matthew 4:4)

And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?" He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and **said**, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? (Matthew 19:3-5)

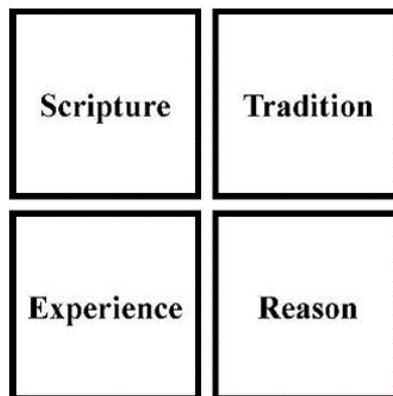
All Scripture is **breathed out by God** and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness... (2 Timothy 3:16)

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit **says**,
 "Today, if you hear his voice..." (Hebrews 3:7)

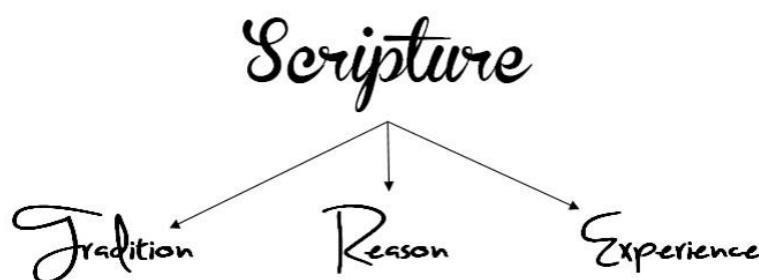
2. The Bible is our supreme authority

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.
 (1 Corinthians 2:14)

Different authorities people have:



For the Christian, God's Word should be our highest authority:



3. The Bible is clear

The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure,
making wise the simple.

(Psalm 19:7)

The unfolding of your words gives light;
it imparts understanding to the simple.

(Psalm 119:130)

4. The Bible is necessary

Blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord!
Blessed are those who keep his testimonies,
who seek him with their whole heart,
who also do no wrong,
but walk in his ways!

(Psalm 119:1-3)

5. The Bible is sufficient

I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book. (Revelation 22:18-19)

6. The Bible is centred on the gospel of Jesus

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. (Matthew 5:17)

Implications

- a. Read the Bible
- b. Listen to the Bible
- c. Obey the Bible
- d. Test everything with the Bible (cf. the noble Bereans in Acts 17:11)



What would you say is most people's supreme authority in what they think and do?

From the Bible

1. Re-read the sermon points and Bible references. Share with the group what stands out for you.
2. What should we remember about the Bible?
 - 2 Timothy 3:16
 - Isaiah 40:8
 - Hebrews 4:12
3. Why is prayerful reading of the Bible important?
 - 1 Corinthians 2:9-14
 - James 1:5
 - Ephesians 6:18

Think it through

1. In what attitude should we approach the Bible?
2. What will it mean for you to have God's Word as your highest authority, even when you or popular thinking disagrees with it?
3. Share with the group any suggestions to encourage regular Bible reading.

Pray

Prayer for the week

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them,
that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

