

## SESSION 19

# GOD'S WORD

God&Me&Us

## Focus Point

The Bible is God's inspired Word, and it has been remarkably preserved, just as it was originally written.

## The Key Truths

Using evidence for the inspiration and preservation of Scripture, and that the Scriptures describe the process of how they are written, this episode confidently presents the Bible as the authentic Word of God. Because the Bible is God's Word, and God is to whom we give account for our lives, this makes the Bible a very important basis for how we live our lives.

## Scriptures to Consider

- **Exodus 31:18 (NLT)** - *"When the LORD finished speaking with Moses on Mount Sinai, He gave Him the two stone tablets inscribed with the terms of the covenant, written by the finger of God."*
- **2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)** - *"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."*

## Group Discussion Questions

**Question 1:** What does it mean that Scripture is 'God-breathed'?

**Answer:** God is not a creature in the way we are, who breathes to stay alive. When the Bible talks about the breath of God, it is most times speaking about His Spirit. In second Timothy, Paul is saying that the Holy Spirit was the one who gave the writers of Scripture the words to record and that He inspired the content. The words of Scripture are not human ideas or wisdom, but are the very thoughts and words of God, given by Him to the authors.

**Question 2:** If the Holy Spirit wrote the books of the Bible, why are they in different styles and genres?

**Answer:** The Holy Spirit didn't write the Bible, He inspired it, and that is an important difference. The Holy Spirit gave each author what they should write, but the books of the Bible still contain stylistic differences unique to each writer. Each author wrote in their own literary voice the Truth the Holy Spirit gave them. Each of us will express ourselves in our own way. This doesn't change the Truth or fact, just the way in which it is communicated.

**Question 3:** So, is it possible the Bible contains mistakes?

**Answer:** No, that is not possible, because the Holy Spirit guided the whole process, so the Truth of God is preserved for us in Scripture.

The process of copying it from one example to another has also been carefully monitored so the actual text has not been allowed to be passed on with errors in it.

**Question 4:** So does the Bible tell us everything?

**Answer:** No, not at all. There are many things the Bible does not speak about. It does not tell us about the history of countries that do not feature in the story of Israel and the church. It does not focus on physical descriptions of people, like Jesus, or on extensive political histories that are not important to the story. The Bible does not tell us everything, but the Bible tells us enough. It tells us enough so that we can be saved and come into relationship with God through His Son. It tells us enough so that we can live lives that please God. It tells us enough so that we can know how to tell others about Jesus and see them come to know Him too.

## Word of the Day

Scripture

## Verse of the Day

*"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness."* – 2 Timothy 3:16 (NIV)

