

Know, Live, Preach...For the Next Generation.
2 Timothy 3:16-4:3a
10/31/10

Think with me for a minute...

- 1) Your co-worker comes to you one day and explains how bad their spouse has been treating them and is thinking about just ending the marriage. What kind of advise would you give them? Would it be biblical advice? By the way you live, would they expect to get biblical advice?
- 2) Your kid comes home from school and starts talking about how the earth is over 1 million years old. You stop them and say that is not how it happened. They proceed to say that there is a lot of evidence proving evolution what is the evidence for the genesis account?
- 3) Your college age child calls you one day and explains to you that him and his fiancé are going to move in together and the beginning of the month. It just makes more sense financially to have one rent payment not two. It will help them get a better start with they are married next year. What will you say? What will you say when they ask why?
- 4) You are discipline a young believer and you here them give some unbiblical advice in the check out line. Would you be able to know it is unbiblical? What would you say?
- 5) A neighbor ask for proof that the Bible is true. Would you be able to give a defense for the Word?

Know the Word

-¹⁶All Scripture

- All – Is there anything not included in all?
- Scripture – When ever Paul uses this word he is referring to the Old Testament.
 - It includes the whole Cannon now....Genesis to Revelation

-is God-breathed

- “Inspired by God”
 - Only time this word appears in the Scriptures.
 - More then just a person being “inspired by a good idea” (modern writers)
 - That term is probably used to loosely today
- Romans 3:2 -- Much in every way! First of all, they have been entrusted with the very words of God.
 - “*The human authors were powerfully gided and directed by the Holy Spirit. As a result, what they wrote is not only without error but of supreme value for man. It is all that God wanted it to be. It constitutes the infallible rule of faith and practice for mankind.*” -- Hendriksen
 - “*The doctrine of the inspiration of Scripture is vitally important, and a doctrine that Satan has attached from the beginning. It is inconceivable that God would give His people a book they could not trust. He is the God of truth; Jesus is “the truth”; and the “Spirit of truth”. Jesus said of the Scriptures, “Thy Word is truth.”* – Weirsbe
- AMEN!
- Now many of us would say that is tue...do we live as if it is true?
 - This is the inspired Word of God. This is a book made up of special revelation that speaks to all areas of life.
 - Shouldn't we crave it, want more of it, can't get enough of it?
 - How well do you know it?

Live the Word

-and is useful for

-Profitable (ESV)

-1 Timothy 4:1 -- For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

-Titus 3:8 -- This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

-teaching,

-Greek: instruction, doctrine, learning, teaching

-English: to impart knowledge or skill

- *"The scripture provides the comprehensive and complete body of divine truth necessary for life and godliness"* -- MacArthur

-rebuking,

-Greek: reproof, evidence, conviction

-English: sharp stern disapproval

-correcting

-Greek: strengthening up again

-English: to set make true, accurate, right; remove errors or faults

-and training in righteousness,

-Greek: nurture, discipline, tutor

-English: the education, instruction, or discipline of a person or thing that is being trained

-Originally used in reference to rearing a child.

-This is the instruction of taking the knowledge and putting it to action

-¹⁷so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped

-Complete, equipped (ESV)

-referring to: fit for use and furnished with what is needed

-Both are achieved by the believer using the Word not as just a book of knowledge but a book that will change, mold, and prepare you for a life of godliness.

- *"Capable of doing everything one is called to do"* -- MacArthur

-for every good work.

-This process is a complete one. The Word is there for teaching us the basic knowledge, showing us where we are wrong, building us up where we need to be strengthened, and showing us how to put the knowledge to practice!

-Are you using the scriptures for all of these steps in your own life?

-Where are you stopping short?

-What are you leaving out?

- *"The word not only accomplishes this in the life of the man of God but in all who follow him."* - MacArthur

- *"They are profitable for doctrine (what is right), for reproof (what is not right), for correction (how to get right), and for instruction in righteousness (how to stay right). A Christian who studies the Bible and applies what he learns will grow in holiness and avoid many pitfalls in this world."* – Wiersbe

Preach the Word

-¹In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: ²Preach the Word;

-Greek: to herald, preach, proclaim

-Romans 10:14-15 -- ¹⁴How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

-This is a command...not an option!

-Remember this letter is written to Timothy...a pastor.

-The direct application is that pastors should preach the word.

-We are blessed at this church to have a pastor who does so, Amen

-There is a broader application I want to present to you.

-2 Timothy 2:2 -- And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.

-Deuteronomy 4:5-9

-Ephesians 6:4 -- Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

-Proverbs 22:6 -- ⁶ Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

-Some may say that I can't preach or teach I wouldn't know what to say...

-be prepared in season and out of season;

-Be ready (ESV)

-As a soldier is prepared or ready for battle.

-It will take effort

-You should be observant of where people are or what they are going to go through (ie. The questions kids will have, what they are being taught in school, the hard times they are about to go through)

-Then study and be prepared to give them Biblical advice

-not worldly advice

-In today's world of information and resources the only reason for you not to know the scriptures is a lack of effort. If you really wanted to know the scriptures there are plenty of media, books, classes, and other resources to help you.

-correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.

-Discipleship!

-It takes the whole body

-That's why it is important for you to attend the church services and events

-It takes time and commitment

-You will be hurt

-³For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine.

-The time I here!

-Many in the American church have given in and already given up on holding onto some doctrines.

-2 Peter 3:3-7; 14-16 -- ³First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. ⁴They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." ⁵But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. ⁶By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. ⁷By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. ¹⁴So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. ¹⁵Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. ¹⁶He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

Some of you may be thinking, "I don't need to be that invested to be saved." I would have 2 things in response: your right but 1) you will miss out on the abundant life the Lord has called you to and 2) it will be the next generation of people and believers that will suffer. (vs 1)

-Look at some statistics for the book "Already Gone"

-1000 20-somethings interviewed from evangelical churches

-evenly distributed through the ages

-normal when compared to national statistics (female, type of school, etc)

-60% had left the church, 40% stayed

-of the 60%

-95% attended regularly in elementary and middle school

-55% attended in high school

-11% did in college

-Those who attended Sunday School were more likely to leave the church

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-I am not saying we should get rid of Sunday school...

-The ones that walked away were asked this question, "Do you believe all the accounts/stories in the Bible are they true/accurate?"

-44% no

-18% don't know

-38% yes!

-But they still left the church... Why

-not really taught the Word

-Didn't understand it demands us to live it out

Ask yourself these Questions:

1) Are you living the Word?

2) Are you preaching the Word?