

# ***Why Believe the Bible?***

## **Study Questions**

### **Getting Started**

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this week's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.
2. What are some things you trust as a source of dependable information in your life? Share with your group the reason behind your answer.
3. Read Matthew 7:24-27. How does this passage speak to the choices that we make every day? What does Jesus want us to learn from this passage?
4. Scan 2 Timothy chapter 3. What are some ways that Paul reminds Timothy of the importance of God's Word? Why would the Word be so important in this context?
5. 2 Peter 1:20-21 gives us insight into how God gave us His Word. What insights to you notice in these verses?
6. God is very precise when He communicates. Read 1 Corinthians 2:12-13. How does God communicate with us? How does this fit with Jesus' teaching in Matthew 5:18?
7. Pastor covered 15 ways that the Bible is unique from any other writing in the history of man. Was there one way that stood out to you? If you had to pick one which would be the most compelling?
8. Pastor reviewed a chart comparing the manuscripts of the Bible with other ancient writings. What stood out to you from this chart? What does this say about the Bible?
9. Reflect again on Jesus' word in Matthew 6:24-27. How should the information in this lesson impact your use of the Bible?

### **Digging Deeper**

10. Start the 30 Day New Testament reading this week. You can get a head start by beginning Monday!

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## **Series: Using My Bible**

*Sunday April 27, 2014*

*“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”*

*Matthew 7:24-27 ESV*

1. **True Success or Failure in life is determined by the \_\_\_\_\_ that guide your life.**
2. \_\_\_\_\_ **will reveal what is real and what is not.**
3. **Building you life on the right foundation takes \_\_\_\_\_.**

### **I. The Bible Claims \_\_\_\_\_**

**1. The Bible Claims to be the \_\_\_\_\_**  
*“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”*  
*2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV*

**2. It Claims God Communicated \_\_\_\_\_**  
*“knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”*  
*2 Peter 1:20-21 ESV*

**3. It Claims Even the \_\_\_\_\_ Are God Spoken.**  
*We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is*

*from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words."*  
*1 Corinthians 2:12-13 NIV*

## II. The Bible is \_\_\_\_\_.

### 15 Ways the Bible is \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Books
2. Written over a span of \_\_\_\_\_ years.
3. Written over \_\_\_\_\_ generations.
4. Written by over \_\_\_\_\_ from every walk of life.
5. Written in \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Written at \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Written during \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Written on \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Written in three \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Written in Different \_\_\_\_\_.
11. Cover C\_\_\_\_\_ Subjects.
12. It is unique in its C\_\_\_\_\_.
13. It is unique in its T\_\_\_\_\_.
14. It is unique in its S\_\_\_\_\_.
15. It has survived P\_\_\_\_\_.

Document Name	When Written	Earliest Copy	Time Span (yrs)	# of Copies
Caesar's <i>Galic Wars</i>	100-44 BC	AD 900	1,000	10
Livy's <i>History of Rome</i>	59 BC-AD 17			20
Plato (Tetralogies)	427-347 BC	900 AD	1,200	7
Tacitus (Annals)	100 AD	1100 AD	1000	20
also minor works	100 AD	1000 AD	900	1
Pliny the Younger (History)	61-113 AD	850 AD	750	7
Thucydides' <i>History</i>	460-400 BC	AD 900	1,300	8
Suetonius (De Vita Caesarum)	75-160 AD	950 AD	800	8
Herodotus' <i>History</i>	480-425 BC	AD 900	1,300	8
Sophocles	496-406 BC	1000 AD	1,400	193
Aristotle	384-322 BC	1100 AD	1,400	49
Homer (Iliad)	900 BC	400 BC	500	643
The New Testament	40-100 AD	AD 125	25	24,000
Adopted from "Evidence That Demands A Verdict" Volume 1 Josh McDowell				

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