



Sermon Discussion Questions

Sermon Series: @theWord
Sunday, January 9: Teaching
II Timothy 3:16-17; Nehemiah 8:1-8
Mike Moses, Lead Pastor

As you begin this study, try to say the memory verses, 2 Timothy 3:16-17 as a group. Now, go around and have each person try to say it by themselves and the group help where needed. Cheer each other on in this!

As a leader, pray for the group and ask that God would give the group understanding of the Scriptures you study today, obedience to live the Scriptures out, and courage to let things in their life be changed by them.

Last week we looked at "All Scripture is God-breathed" and recognized that all the words in the Bible are God's words, breathed by Him, inspired by Him, and given to us through Him.

As a group, respond to this statement: "All the words in the Bible are God's words, and therefore to disbelieve or disobey any word in Scripture is to disbelieve or disobey God."

**What stirs in you when you hear this?*

**What excites you or what makes you fearful?*

**Do you disagree or agree with this statement? Why?*

**This statement is true and because it is, what response toward the Bible is demanded?*

In the book of Nehemiah, chapters 1-7 tell about Nehemiah, a Jewish political leader in the year 450BC. His job is to bring the Jewish people back from exile and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. The people have returned, the wall is built and now in chapter 8, Nehemiah is called to rebuild the people of God as a people.

Read Nehemiah 8:1-8

What stands out to you about these verses? Name everything that stands out and why?

In the time of Nehemiah, there was one copy of the "law of God". It was the first 5 books of the Bible that we have today-the Torah or the Pentateuch. *How long did they read God's word? Why?*

How many Bibles do you have in your house? Where are they right now? What are they used for? What does Nehemiah tell us the "word of God" is to be used for?

Mike's first point this morning was "to be taught by the Word of God, we need to READ IT." *How often do you sit and read God's word? Be honest. We are not trying to guilt or embarrass one another. As a community group we are trying to encourage one another. That starts with being honest.*

How would you hope this would change in the next month?

Mike's second point was "to be taught by the Word of God, you have to meditate on it."

What do you think it means to "meditate on God's word?"

How can you practically "meditate"?

Eugene Peterson reflects on the word "meditate" and uses the metaphor of an old dog chewing on a bone. A dog takes and chews on the bone, puts it away for a while, comes back and chews on it more and repeats this over and over. Has there been a verse for you that over the years has taken on different meaning because you continued to go back to that verse?

Read Psalm 119:9-12

What do we learn about God's word from these verses?

Simply reading and meditating on God's word is not enough. Think back to the quote earlier that we asked you to comment on: "All the words in the Bible are God's words, and therefore to disbelieve or disobey any word in Scripture is to disbelieve or disobey God."

What are verses in Scripture that are hardest for you to "believe" or "obey"? What keeps a person from wanting to obey God's word? What enables a person to obey God's word?

As you end this study, ask God's Holy Spirit to change your heart, to help it long for God's word, to help you believe verses that are hard to believe, to help you obey every word of the Bible.