

**Text:** 2 Timothy 3:10-17

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. Relevance of the Reformation
2. Reclaiming the foundations of our faith

**A. GOD SPEAKS THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES WITH AUTHORITY (v. 16a)**

1. The authoritative source of God's word
2. The aberrations of God's word
  - Institutional
  - Images
  - Influencers

**B. GOD SPEAKS THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES TRUTHFULLY (v. 16b)**

Since it speaks truthfully it benefits us in:

1. Teaching – shows us the right track
2. Rebuking – warns us if we're off track
3. Correcting-helps us to get back on track
4. Training-equips us stay on track

**C. GOD SPEAKS THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES WITH CLARITY (v. 17)**

1. It charts our way of life (v. 10)
2. It conveys wisdom (v. 15)
3. It changes our work to God (v. 17)

**CONCLUSION:**

If the Bible is as important for our lives as we say it is, what will you do to increase your intake of God's Word?

1. The message this week is about the Bible as our surest guide through life. Is there anyone in the group who came to Christ as a teen or adult? What did you depend on for guidance in life prior to becoming a Christian? How did that work for you? What benefit have you found from being guided by scripture as a believer?
2. Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17. Find all the ways the scriptures are described in verses 14-17. What is the importance of each of these descriptions for us?
  - "holy" in v. 15
  - "able to make you wise for salvation" in v. 15
  - "God-breathed" or "inspired by God" in v. 16
  - "useful" or "profitable" in v.16
3. In the message, there are four practical benefits of scripture for our lives from verse 17:
  - Teaching (or doctrine)- showing us the right track
  - Rebuking- warning us when we're getting off track
  - Correcting- helping us get back on track
  - Training in Righteousness- helping us stay on track

Can you think of an example of how a passage of scripture has benefited you in one of these ways? Be specific with a passage and circumstance.

4. At the end of v. 17 it tells us that the result of scriptures work in our lives is to equip us for every good work. How has God's Word helped to equip you for the ministry God has for you to do?
5. If there is time, look up these additional passages. How does each one contribute to our understanding of the importance of scripture for our lives?
  - Psalm 1:1-3
  - Psalm 119:9-11
  - Proverbs 30:5-6
  - Peter 1:20-21
6. Apply it: If the Bible is as important for our lives as we say it is, what will you do to increase your intake of God's Word?