2 Timothy 3:16-17 *All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.*

*17* God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

Key thought: Physical growth is automatic. Spiritual growth is a choice. Until we get in God’s Word, we will never know the ____________ God has in ____________!

**THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD’S WORD**

1. You can ____________________________________________________________
   vs 16a *All Scripture is inspired by God...*

2. It _________________________________________________________________
   vs 16b …*and is useful to teach us what is true...*

3. It will always ______________________________________________________
   vs 16c – 17… *and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. 17* God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

**THE POWER OF GOD’S WORD**

1. It is our _______________________________________________________________________
   Ephesians 6:12 *For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.*

2. It _____________________________________________________________________________
   Matthew 4:4 *But Jesus told him, “No! The Scriptures say, ‘People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”*

3. It keeps us ______________________________________________________________________
   Colossians 3:1-4 *Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand. 2 Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. 3 For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.*

“The more you read the Bible; and the more you meditate on it, the more you will be astonished with it.”

- Charles Spurgeon
THE INTEGRITY OF GOD’S WORD

1. Jesus Christ
   John 1:1-3 In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
   He existed in the beginning with God.  
   God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him.

2. The Word is
   Hebrews 4:12-13 For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword,  
   cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.  
   Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the  
   one to whom we are accountable.

3. The Word is the
   John 14:6 Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

OUR COMMITMENT TO GOD’S WORD

1. We need to
   Romans 10:15 And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say,  
   “How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!”

2. We need to
   Joshua 1:8 Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey  
   everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.

3. We need to
   Acts 17:11 And the people of Berea were more open-minded than those in Thessalonica, and they listened  
   eagerly to Paul’s message. They searched the Scriptures day after day to see if Paul and Silas were teaching  
   the truth.

4. We need to
   Psalm 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

5. We need to
   James 1:22 But don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling  
   yourselves.
A key practice of growing believers is reading, studying, and applying Scripture together. Each week we’ll read the passage aloud, pray to ask the Holy Spirit to guide discussion, then follow these three steps:

1. **OBSERVE**: What is the passage saying?
   - Analyze: look for emphasized statements, repeated words, and the flow of the passage.
   - How would you summarize or paraphrase these verses?

2. **INTERPRET**: What is the passage teaching?
   - Ask the group to discuss the passage. What do they see? Ask the following questions and use the supplemental answers as needed.
   - According to the verses, why is reading the Bible important?
   - What do these verses teach about God (the Father, Son, and Spirit) and His character?
   - What other verses (including those that Jonathan referenced in his message) reveal the Bible’s importance in a believer’s life?

3. **APPLY**: What is our response?
   - What is the Holy Spirit saying to you about this passage? Is He convicting you to do or change anything?
   - What are ways to hear, read, study, memorize, and obey God’s Word this week?
   - Think of practical ways to implement your plan.

**PRAY** the passage. Read the passage aloud one more time and allow people to pray out loud in response.

Once you’re ready to begin discussion, gather your group and open your Bibles to this week’s passage.

*Consult the Leader Tips Appendix at the end of this guide to see creative ways to engage your group in discussion.*

**ICEBREAKER**
Ask the group to share their favorite Bible verse and why. Or, share a time when a Scripture verse greatly encouraged them through a life circumstance.

**READ** 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

**PRAY** to ask the Holy Spirit to guide discussion.