



The Necessity and Power of God's Word

"Talking points" for the person leading the Equipping Time; prepared by (doesn't need to be stated): Jeff Loaney

Statement of the Objective and Intro

We want all Discipleship Journey participants to become even more convinced of the absolute necessity of using and depending on God's Word for knowing God and doing His will.

1. God's Word is necessary! His Word is necessary to know him, to know his will, to know how one is saved, and to grow spiritually.
2. Without God's Word to guide us to him and his truth, we would be left to our own faulty fallen perceptions and experiences to find our way.
3. This is why we engage God's Word in all our meetings together and in the counsel we give. We trust not in our own ability but his Word to draw men to Himself and to grow them in faith and practice.

Motivation

[Leader, use the following verses or pick your own favorite verse to use] Here's a way that a specific Scripture verse or passage or study can become God's instrument to radically change us in some significant way.

[Read or recite verses:]

2 Timothy 3:16-17

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.

[Explain the passage and give a helpful word picture or illustration for the verse(s):

Consider getting on the right path (need for teaching), getting off the path (needing reproof), getting back on the path (need for correction), and staying on that path (need for training).

All Scripture is breathed out by God, the words of Scripture are God-breathed and are God's gracious gift to us. God wants us to know him and his will! He has graciously given us the Scriptures, by which we can know of his character and love and know how to respond and relate to him. He has also graciously given us the Holy Spirit which enables us to understand what the Scriptures say and how we can apply them to our lives.



They are profitable, they are beneficial, a means of great gain!

For teaching, they help us ***“get on the right path”*** as we learn what he is really like, what his will is, and who we are as sinners with our desperate need for him.

For reproof, for helping us ***“know when we get off the right path”*** when we have strayed from believing and living according to truth.

For correction for helping us ***“get back on the right path,”*** how we need to repent and trust him in ways we are not.

For training, for helping us ***“stay on the right path,”*** how we can develop habits that lead to righteousness, a life of faith and obedience.

So that the man of God, every believer, you and me...

May be complete, having all that we need in and through God's Word.

Equipped for every good work, that he might be a useful servant for all the good works God has planned for him to do.

[Equipping] Depend on the Word to accomplish its work!

1. Start your sessions together by jumping right into the study; read Scripture from the Bible itself, not just from *Discipleship Essentials* or *New Morning Mercies*
2. As often as you can, and as is helpful, point the men back to the Word for guidance and encouragement.
3. Ask not just what they think, but what do you think the Word means by what it says.
4. Faithfully memorize and then use the passages you are memorizing.
5. Volunteer regularly what God is teaching you from his Word and ask the guys what they are learning from God's Word.

Conclusion

What is it that enables you and me to help and encourage those we are leading in the disciple making journey? Is it our own intellect? Is it our own wise counsel? Is it our own lessons learned from experience? Is it flowing from our own ability and strength? Oh, I hope not! God help them if we are trusting in ourselves to grow and equip these men.

I pray God will humble us, and give us great confidence, not in ourselves but in his Word to complete and equip these men for service. Will God use us? He sure will, as we lead them to his Word to eat and drink deeply from all that he has spoken to us in his Word.