

Discussion Opener

You're going on a year-long space voyage; what one book do you take with you - besides the Bible?
(Don't worry, the Gideons left a Bible in the drawer of your spaceship's night stand.)

Message Thoughts

This week we continued our Vintage Faith series. We examined some of the Bible's impressive credentials such as the fulfilled prophecies within the text as well as its astounding accuracy compared to other ancient literature. If you missed it, take a listen at myfirstchurch.com

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Discussion

Read verse 14 again. "Because you know those from whom you learned it."

Why is that significant? How important is the integrity or reputation of teachers you learn from?

According to this passage, why have we been given the Bible?

To teach us to be "righteous" and equip us for "good work."

Righteous is kind of churchy word and sometimes carries holier-than-thou connotations.

What does it mean to be - or strive to be - righteous?

Is there a difference between being right and being righteous?

The great Christian author and thinker C. S. Lewis once said, "it is Christ Himself, not the Bible, who is the true word of God. The Bible, read in the right spirit and with the guidance of good teachers, will bring us to Him. We must not use the Bible as a sort of encyclopedia out of which texts can be taken for use as weapons."

Have you ever seen Bible passages used as weapons to hurt, manipulate or shame someone?

How does 2 Timothy 3:14-17 help us avoid that pitfall?

This weekend David talked about some of the Bible's credentials, both from within the Bible itself as well as from historical and archaeological sources.

How would you answer a friend that asks how you can trust the Bible to be accurate after thousands of years and numerous translations?

1 Peter 3:15 says, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."

What Bible verse or story has helped you through a tough time, challenged you to live differently, or helped you trust in God more? What is your reason for the hope you have in Christ?

Prayer

Let's do a little High/Low. Share a highlight from this past week or something you're thankful for. Then share a low point, something we can pray for you about.