



The Clarity, Necessity and Sufficiency of God's Word for the Whole of Life

Do you really believe that you can't live the transformed life without God's Word?

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Overview

- Two Perspectives on a Field in Nebraska ...
- Clarity of God's Word
- Necessity of God's Word
- Sufficiency of God's Word
- So What?
- Small Group Discussion/Processing Question



Do you really believe that you can't live the transformed life without God's Word?

A Field in Nebraska

(Ground View)



Do you really believe that you can't live the transformed life without God's Word?

A Field in Nebraska

(God's Eye View)



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The Clarity of God's Word

- The Bible is written in such a way that **all things** necessary for our salvation and for our Christian life and growth are **very clearly set out in Scripture**
- The clarity of Scripture means that the Bible is written in such a way that its teachings are **able to be understood by all** who will read it **seeking** God's help and being **willing** to follow it
- Key Passages on the Clarity of God's Word:
 - Psalm 19:7: “reviving the soul ... making wise the simple”
 - I Corinthians 2:14-16: “without the Spirit ... does not accept ... foolishness to him ... cannot understand ... spiritually discerned ...”



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The Necessity of God's Word

- The Bible is necessary for the knowledge of the **Gospel and our Salvation**
 - Romans 10:12-17
- The Bible is necessary for **growing in our spiritual life**
 - Matthew 4:4 (Jesus quoting Deut. 8:3)
- The Bible is necessary for **knowing God's will**
 - Psalm 119:105
- But the Bible is **not necessary for knowing God exists or some about God's character and moral laws**
 - Psalm 19:1, Romans 1:19-21



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The Sufficiency of God's Word

- The Sufficiency of God's Word means **it contains all the words of God He intended His people to have** at each stage of redemptive history and it **now contains everything we need** God to tell us for salvation, for trusting Him, and for obediently living for Him
 - 2 Timothy 3:14-17
- Practical Implications of the Sufficiency of God's Word
 - **Search the Bible** for answers in living and knowing God's will
 - **Don't add to Scripture** nor consider any other writings of equal value to Scripture
 - **Don't count any other guidance** from God equal to Scripture
 - **Don't add more requirements for living** other than found in Scripture (i.e. no legalism)
 - **Be content with Scripture** (emphasize what Scripture emphasizes and be content with what God has told us in Scripture)



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So What? Feed on the Word

- But before you even open the Word daily
- **Pray first!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**
- Some potential prayers (ones I pray):
 - Lord, please penetrate my heart and teach me as I read Your Word
 - Lord, please read me as I read Your Word
 - “Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in Your law” (Psalms 119:18)



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So What? Feed on the Word

STUDY IT! • ezra 7:10

READ IT! • deut 17:19

MEMORIZE IT! • psal 119:9,11

HEAR IT! • rom 10:17

MEDITATE on IT! • psal 1:2,3

the LAND

"sharpen up"

network tools

if you want to understand the Word you've got to study it. Study the Word it will give you depth.

The Bible is a book that can be read in as little as 50 hours. Read the Word it will give you breadth.

Commit key verses and passages to memory and make the Word available at all times.

It's important to hear what others have to share from the Word of God. You need continual exposure to godly teaching.

Reflect on what you've heard, read, studied and memorized from the Word to consider what God wants you to do.

Recall:	
Hear	5-10%
Read	20-30%
Study	60-75%
Memorize	100%
Meditate	Unlimited

Don't forget application!!!

believe that you can't live ed life without God's Word?

So What? Meditate on the Word

Two Ways to Try

1. When you read, pick a key verse, and pray what God puts on your heart back to God verbally or write it in a journal Or

2. ABC Method

A - Ask Questions: Is there a command to obey? A promise to claim? A sin to avoid? An application to make? Something new to know about God?

B – Best Verse and write something down based on questions asked

C – Communicate with God about it



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Discussion / Processing Question

If you really believe that God's Word is clear, necessary, and sufficient for the whole of life, how then will you live and serve?



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Back Up Slides



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Discussion / Processing Questions

1. When you are sharing with someone who is seeking or growing as a disciple of Jesus, what is the one thing above all others you would want him/her to read? In practice, what do you do? Why?
2. When we are actively seeking to know God's will for life, where should we spend most of our time and effort? In practice, what do you do? Do God's principles in Scripture and the apparent guidance we receive from feelings, conscience, advice, circumstances, human reasoning, or society ever seem to conflict? How should we seek to resolve this?



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Review: How We Can Know

God's Word has **authority** in our lives and we can depend on His Word for **all truth because ...**

- It is **inspired by God** (II Timothy 3:14-17, II Peter 1:16-24)

- It **endures forever** (Isaiah 40:8, Matthew 24:35)

- It is **THE standard for truth** (John 14:6, John 17:17)

- It was **verified and validated by Jesus** (Luke 24:44) and the prophets

- It is **consistent with objective facts** internally and in human history

- It proves true from our own subjective **personal experience** and countless others

But ultimately, **we must choose to believe by faith ...**



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Biblical Guidelines for Life

- Anger: Ephesians 4:26-27
- Baptism: Acts 2:38
- Bitterness: Ephesians 4:31, James 3:14
- Contentment: Proverbs 30:7-9, I Timothy 6:6
- Discipleship: Matthew 28:18-20
- Divorce: Malachi 2:16, Matthew 5:31-32, 19:1-9
- Drinking/Drunkenness: Ephesians 5:17-18, I Timothy 3:3, Titus 2:3
- Evangelism: I Peter 3:15-16
- Forgiving Others: Matthew 6:14-15
- Generational Ministry: Matthew 28:19-20, John 17:20-21, II Timothy 2:1-2
- Giving: I Corinthians 16:2, Proverbs 3:9-10, II Corinthians 9:6-7
- Homosexuality: I Corinthians 6:9-10, Romans 1:26-27
- Integrity: Acts 24:16, Leviticus 19:11
- Judging: Matthew 7:1-2, Romans 14:10
- Lordship: Luke 6:46, II Peter 2:19-20
- Marriage: Ephesians 5:22-33, I Peter 3:1-7, II Corinthians 6:14, Proverbs 31
- Military Service: Exodus 20:13, Matthew 8:5-13, Luke 3:14, Acts 10:1-8
- Parenting: Proverbs 22:6, Ephesians 6:1-4, Psalm 127:3-5
- Priorities: Matthew 6:33
- Purity: I Corinthians 10:13, Job 31:1, Proverbs 7
- Rest: Matthew 11:28-30
- Salvation: I John 5:11-12, John 10:28-29
- Spiritual Warfare: Ephesians 6:10-20
- Truth and Sufficiency of Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 4:12, 2 Peter 1:16-21
- Wisdom: Proverbs 2
- Work: Colossians 3:23-29, I Timothy 6:1-12, Ephesians 6:5-6



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