

Can I Trust the Bible? | Ethan Matott | 10.23.22

Weekly Study

SHARE

Before we jump into the study, take some time to check in with your group and ask the following questions:

• What is the most impactful or challenging thing you learned during Sunday's sermon?

• What did that thing teach you about God? About yourself?

On Sunday, Ethan continued our series "Word of God." In this series, we are asking and answering big questions about the Bible. As we lean into this new series, we pray that it intentionally equips you to experience everything God has waiting in the pages of His Word. By the end of this series, our hope is that we are not just going to know more about the Word of God, we are going to experience more of the power of the Word of God in our life.

GROW

We believe that the Bible is the foundation of our life and is the word of God, which means that a lot is riding on whether these words are true. Ethan showed us on Sunday that the Bible has all sorts of evidence to prove its legitimacy, from historicity to archaeology to bibliographical evidence; however, the Bible isn't just another historical book, but is the Story of God that is also corroborated by thousands of pieces of evidence to support its legitimacy. The unity of this story is considered to be a masterpiece that continues to mold civilization from generation to generation.

- What did you learn this week about the legitimacy of scripture?
- Do you trust the Bible? What is your current posture or mindset about its legitimacy and authority in your life?

Dive Deeper: Check out the *28-day devotional* that has been written as a resource to navigate through the new series, Word of God. You can find it on our Red Rocks Church app and website. Share with someone in your group this week something that God reveals to you or is teaching you through the devotional that week. If you haven't started it yet, it's not too late!

ΜΟΥΕ

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

While some factually believe that the stories of the Bible happened and that Jesus was a real human being, there can still be questions from people about whether the words of this book are truly from God. This passage shows us that scripture is indeed God-breathed and inspired by Him and is profitable in all situations. There are confirmations of prophecies, miracles, the disciples eye-witness testimonies and writings along with the pure survival of scripture that has all pointed to its being proven as the Word of God — but ultimately, we do not trust the Bible as being divinely inspired because it says it is, but because we trust the person of Jesus and the truth of the resurrection.

• What, if anything, has begun to influence or take authority in your life over scripture (success, culture, voices of your friends, etc.)?

At the end of the day, all of this is just information if it doesn't stem from our trust in Jesus. Information is good, but the Bible is full of revelation intended for our spiritual formation into more of the person of Jesus. It confronts our desire for control, it comforts and guides us, it encourages and convicts us — as we place our trust in the divinely inspired Word of God, we will be gradually shaped into the people He has called us to be, bearing fruit in everything and growing in our ability to walk with Him each day.

- Does knowing that the word of God is alive and active and able to speak to each situation you face change the way that you approach reading the Bible?
- When was the last time God disagreed with you on something? Would you be able to hear him if he was trying to? When was the last time you let His Word challenge you or confront you or redirect you?

Dive Deeper: As you connect with God this week, check out the new *Discipleship Guide* that can be found on the RRC app or on the website as a resource to help take your faith journey a bit deeper: <u>redrockschurch.com/discipleshipguide</u>

PRAY

Take time to pray as a group, inviting God to expand your faith in him and trusting in his Word to have ultimate authority in your life.