



Should the Bible Have Authority in My Life? | Andrew Matrone | 10.23.22

Weekly Study

SHARE

On Sunday, Andrew continued our series “Word of God.” Andrew asked a question that challenged each one of us, *should the Bible have ultimate authority in our life?* No matter where you are at on our journey of following Christ, we pray that this week’s message intentionally challenged you to take the next step to experience everything God has waiting in the pages of his Word, and we hope that you will experience more of the power of the Word of God in your life.

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 this week’s message?
- What did that thing teach you about God? About yourself?

GROW

Read Hebrews 4:14-16

As Andrew said this week, we all have different postures that we find ourselves in towards the Word of God having ultimate authority in our lives. You may be in a posture of confidence where you have experienced the power and authority of the Word of God in your life. Maybe you find yourself in a posture of being curious and not sure what you think but need to take a step forward to learn more about who Jesus is and what the Bible has to say about it all. Or you may find yourself being super cautious or even cynical about the whole thing but no matter where you are at, you still showed up and that is part of it all.

When it comes to the Word of God having ultimate authority in your life, what posture do you find yourself in at this moment? Share with your group.

No matter where you find yourself, you still showed up and there is an invitation to dive deeper into God's Word to experience the power and authority in your life. Whether it be in confidence, ask God to show you more of him through his word. If you find yourself in the posture of curiosity, take one step further this week by checking out the 28-day devotional that is available for all of us. And maybe you find yourself in the posture of being cautious or cynical, ask God to speak to you this week and keep showing up. The amazing thing about God and his Word is that he will speak to us no matter what posture we find ourselves in. Andrew reminded us that, God created us uniquely, so he wants to speak to us uniquely. He is not afraid of our questions or doubts, he invites us to ask all of them. Because when we ask, he promises to answer.

Whatever posture you find yourself in, what one step closer will you take this week?

Do you think the postures can change throughout your journey with Christ? Explain.

Take some time to encourage each other.

M O V E

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:20,21; John 8:31,32

Andrew challenged us with a few reasons why we must consider that the Bible needs to have the ultimate authority in our life. We read that the Bible is the *inspired Word of God*. It is his very breath that created the heavens and earth and everything within it and is the power that heals and transforms lives. The Bible had many, God inspired writer's, but he was the only author. The Bible is God's way of communicating to us so that we will partner with him to bring his Kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven.

How has hearing Andrew explain how the Bible is truly the inspired Word of God challenged your belief about this truth?

God's Word is the *ultimate truth*. Jesus says that "we cannot serve two masters" (Matthew 6:24). We all submit to something and if it is not the Word of God it is something else. It could be the pleasures of this world, success, outside voices, our own truths...whatever may have that ultimate authority in our life, God is inviting us into something deeper. This is found in the Word of God which is promised to transform and set us free. The question is, does the Word of God ultimately win in your life?

What has taken authority in your life (pleasures of this world. Success, outside voices, your on truths...)?

Because God's Word is alive and active it continues to draw us nearer, exposing our fragility and need for him. Jesus says that his "Word will never pass away" (Matthew 24:35), that it is and will always be. And the beautiful thing about this is that as we read his Word, no matter where we find ourselves on this journey, he is still speaking!

Does knowing that God's Word is alive and active change the way you approach reading the Bible?

To fully engage in the Word of God, it ultimately requires faith. Just as you continue to show up at church, to serve, or here in group, it requires faith. Just as when you realized that Jesus is who he says he is required great faith, so does believing that his Word needs to have ultimate authority in your life. Following Jesus ultimately requires faith as does leaning in and trusting in his Words. As we take this step, we will see God do more than we could ever ask or

imagine. His Word will speak as we open our lives up to it. It will challenge and transform the way we see the world around us. It is so good and full of the life only God has uniquely planned for each of us.

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.

Dive Deeper: As you connect with God this week, continue diving into the Word. We recommend your group continue to do the 28-Day Devotional together. Share with someone in your group something that God spoke to you this week in the devo.

P R A Y

Take time to pray together over your arenas of influence this week and for courage to go and make God known.

