



PART 2: WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?

Sermon Notes

Text:

Recap

The Bible is the most important and influential book in all of human history.

The Bible is a treasure map which leads us to Jesus.

What is the Bible? God's words about himself.
What is the Bible about? All about Jesus.
Why should we read it? Formation.

Today

Who wrote the Bible and why?

Does the Bible matter today?

1. How was the Bible inspired?

Written by humans, for humans, with God's direction

God's action, human witness and record

Old Testament - an old but new story.

- A historical narrative of the Ancient Near East from a unique perspective.
- Cultural and religious tradition of the Israelite people.
- A very different kind of god.

Isaiah 55

New Testament - a new humanity.

- Jesus, the historical juggernaut: "The turning point in history."
- World changing eye witnesses.
- God is near, interested and involved.

The Bible was inspired by God's action, observed and recorded by humans, under God's direction, for our benefit.

2. Is the Bible relevant?

The Bible is relevant because of how it was inspired.

"We have heard, we have seen with our eyes, we have touched with our hands..." (1 John 1.1)

i. Accessible:

- The Bible can be understood because God intends to be understood.
- Thousands of years, dozens of authors, multiple languages, many genres.
-and yet it compels us still.

ii. Existentially and emotionally satisfying.

- Who we are, where we came from and why we're here.
- Not only why we exist but how to exist.

Psalm 34

Conclusion:

The Bible is a hopeful story

We are living in the continued story of God.

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What did you find most interesting, challenging or intriguing about Sunday's message? Did you learn anything new about the Bible? Or come to appreciate it in a new way? How so?

Study & Discussion:

1. Do you have a better understanding of what it means that the Bible is "inspired" by God? How would you explain this concept to someone who doesn't understand?
 - Read 2 Samuel 23:2; Jeremiah 1:9; John 14:26; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:20-21. These verses (among others) help us the doctrine of Bible inspiration. What stood out to you about these passages?
2. Many people consider the Bible an irrelevant, ancient document that can't speak to our current situations. How would you respond to that belief? How is the Bible still relevant today?
 - Consider the following passages: 1 Timothy 3:16-17; Psalm 119:105-107; Matthew 4:4; James 1:25. What do these passages say about the relevance of scripture to our lives?

Application:

1. How are you going to increase your Bible engagement this week? (Remember: Bible engagement includes reading, studying and discussing the Bible).

Prayer:

1. Pray for the discipline to increase your Bible engagement.
2. Other Requests
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