

# FOUNDATIONS

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO

## SCRIPTURE why do we read it?

The Resurrection and the Life | Stephanie Fehr | April 9, 2023

## 2 Chronicles 34: a good king

- 8 year old Josiah
- V.3: “seek the God of his father David”
- someone found the long lost and forgotten Torah
- the prophetess Huldah encouraged his responsiveness to the Lord’s words
- the whole community changed

## Why do we read scripture?

- “People of the Book”
- The Bible is foundational
- 2 Timothy 3:16-17: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
- *theopneustos* - “god” and “to breathe out” or “blow”

## Why do we read scripture?

- C.S. Lewis: “We come to Scripture not to learn a subject but to steep ourselves in a person.”
- N. T. Wright: a five-act play, full of drama and surprise, wherein the people of God are invited into the story to improvise the unfinished, final act
- Theology: study of God



## Why do we read scripture?

- Tradition
- Baptist distinctive: Biblical authority
- centering preaching
- 1 Timothy 4:13: “devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching, and to teaching.”

## Public reading of scripture

- Exodus 24: Moses at Mount Sinai
- Joshua 8: promised land
- 2 Chronicles 34: King Josiah finds the Torah
- Nehemiah 8: re-engage after exile
- Luke 4: Jesus’ public ministry

## Public reading of scripture

- NT Wright calls “rehearsing the mighty acts of God for God’s glory.”
- Rachel Held Evans: “the Bible is intended to be read, wrestled with, applied, debated, cherished, and celebrated in community.”

## Takeaways...

- hold to the Bible as our authoritative source for our theology and desire to learn from it
- wrestle with the scripture together
- Humility
  - James 1:19: “My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry...”