

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching out to leaders who can change the world.

October 2014

PAUL'S LAST WORDS: CONTINUE IN WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED

INTRODUCTION

Are Christian parents (& grandparents) giving their children sufficient Bible (discipleship) instruction? What might be preventing them? How could it change?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17

1. What did Timothy know about Paul?
2. Why could Timothy trust Paul's spiritual influence?
3. From what did Paul say he was rescued?
4. What will happen to everyone that tries to live a godly life? Why?
5. Paul does not expect blind faith from Timothy. What reasons does he give for it? Vv. 14-15
6. People can learn facts from the Bible but only become scholars. What to Paul, his mother (Eunice) and grandmother (Lois) do for Timothy to *disciple* him?
7. How can verse 15 be an encouragement to us? Explain.

8. What is true of all Scripture? v. 16 2 Pet 1:20-21 What evidence exists for this?

Note: The word "inspired" means "God-breathed – filled with the breath of God." It is fine for Christians to take study courses and learn methods of ministry, but the best way for them to equip themselves to serve God is to study and practice the Word of God. Study books tell us how, but the Bible gives us the motivation and power to live what we learn. It is interesting to compare the uses of the Bible with the order of the epistles: doctrine—Romans; reproof—1 and 2 Corinthians; correction—Galatians; instruction in righteousness—Ephesians and Colossians.¹

9. For what does the Scripture equip the man of God? vs 17; Eph 2:10

10. In what specific ways do you allow the Bible to speak to you? Ps 119:105; Jn 16:13

11. What helps us consistently live according to biblical truth? What hinders?

APPLICATION

How will you disciple someone this week? Who is discipling you? Matt 28:19-20

The inspiration of the Bible is seen in its unique survival. All through history it has been a hated book for certain people because of its claim to be the word of the living God. But in spite of all attempts at times by emperors, dictators and totalitarian governments to destroy it by burning, confiscation and the imprisonment and persecution of those who read it and preach it, all such attempts have miserably failed—this remarkable book is still with us and is as widely dispersed as ever.

During the Stalin era in Russia, the Marxist government derided the Bible as a book full of legends, myths, and old wives' tales. It even established an anti-Bible museum in Moscow to try and convince the people. Yet for all their derision, the authorities were so desperately afraid that people would read it and believe it, that they put them in prison and in labor camps for doing so. Why? Because they knew that this unique book had the power to change people's lives.²

¹ Wiersbe, W. W. (1992). *Wiersbe's expository outlines on the New Testament* (p. 650). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

² Williams, P. (2007). *Opening up 2 Timothy* (pp. 83–84). Leominster: Day One Publications.