

## 2023 NORTHEAST MIDDLE SCHOOL SPRING CONFERENCE

### THE BIBLE – THE WORD OF GOD

#### Outline One

#### **The Bible - The Word of God**

- I. The Bible is the Word of God:
  - A. The Bible is God-breathed; it did not come out of man's ideas or thoughts; rather, the Bible contains the thoughts and words of God, which were breathed into men through His Spirit and then written down—2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:21.
  - B. The Old Testament is God's speaking in the prophets; the New Testament is God's speaking in the Son, our Lord Jesus—Matt. 22:31-32; Heb. 1:1-2; John 8:47.
  - C. Because the Holy Spirit descended and inspired the disciples to write the books of the New Testament, the books of the New Testament have divine authority—John 14:26.
  - D. The Bible is the word that God commanded man to write. Every word and sentence, iota, and serif were revealed by God. We must neither add to the Bible nor take away anything from it—Exo. 34:27; Matt. 5:18; Rev. 22:18-19.
- II. **The Bible is God's personal letter to us; it is a divine, spiritual book, a book of life, teaching us spiritual lessons.**
- III. **God has given us two important spiritual inheritances—the Spirit and the Bible; to know God, we need to have experiences with the Spirit and with the Bible.**
  - A. The Bible is the embodiment of God the Spirit; it is also the expression of God the Spirit; God the Spirit is expressed through the Bible as the embodiment—John 5:39.
  - B. God the Spirit resides in His word; when we read the Bible, we touch God the Spirit because the Bible is the dwelling place of God the Spirit.
  - C. The Bible is the means of God the Spirit; whatever God does toward us and whatever God wants us to do are done through His word—cf. 1 Pet. 1:23; 2:2; Matt. 4:4.

## Outline Two

### **The Functions of the Word and the Believer's Relationship with the Word**

#### **I. The functions of the Bible as the Word of God:**

- A. The Word of God testifies concerning Christ—John 5:39-40; Luke 24:27.
- B. The Word of God is able to make us wise unto salvation—2 Tim. 3:15.
- C. The Word of God regenerated us and causes us to grow—1 Pet. 1:23; 2:2.
- D. The Word of God is profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work—2 Tim. 3:16-17.
- E. The Word of God was written for our admonition—1 Cor. 10:11.
- F. The Word of God is a lamp shining in a dark place—2 Pet. 1:19; Psa. 119:105.
- G. The Word of God keeps our way pure—Psa. 119:9.
- H. The Word of God is our food—Matt. 4:4; John 6:68; Jer. 15:16.
- I. “That He might sanctify her, cleansing her by the washing of the water in the word” (Eph. 5:26); if we honor the constant speaking of the Spirit within us, the Spirit's speaking will become the water that cleanses, purifies, sanctifies, and supplies us.

#### **II. The relationship between the believers and the Bible:**

- A. We should love the word and treasure the word—Psa. 119:97, 11; Job 23:12.
- B. We must incline our hearts toward the Bible—Psa. 119:36.
- C. We must believe in our heart in order to receive the word into us—Rom. 10:9.
- D. We can trust in the Bible which means that we commit ourselves to the Bible and rely on the Bible—Psa. 119:42.
- E. We can hope in the Word of God by our heart—Psa. 119:114, 147.
- F. We need to take care of our conscience so that there is no separation between ourselves and God when we read the Bible—Isa. 59:2.
- G. We should tremble at the word of God by humbling ourselves—Isa. 66:2; Ezra 9:4.
- H. We should eat the word to receive it into us, so that we can digest it inwardly in order to supply our spiritual life—Jer. 15:16.
- I. We can sing the word of the Bible to refresh and supply our spirits—Psa. 119:172.
- J. We should speak the word of the Bible to others—Psa. 119:46.
- K. We should not add or take away from the word of God—Deut. 4:2; 12:32; Prov. 30:6; Rev. 22:18-19.

## Outline Three

### Fellowship on Reading the Bible

- I. The thought of the Bible is that it is spiritual nourishment, spiritual food and drink that is full of life; we must be nourished with the word, not merely taught by it—Psa. 119:103; 1 Pet. 2:2-3; Heb. 5:12-14.
- II. Since the Bible is food for our spiritual life, we must receive spiritual nourishment daily—Acts 17:11; Jer. 15:16.
- III. Our Bible reading should have a set time and be apportioned.
- IV. The morning is the best time to read the Bible when our heart has just awakened, our spirit is clean and quiet, and there is nothing to disturb or worry us—Psa. 119:147-148; Exo. 16:21; Isa. 50:4.
- V. If we want to understand the Bible when we read it, our heart must turn to the Lord; if our heart is not turned, there will be a veil on our heart that prevents us from seeing the light in the Bible; once our heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away—2 Cor. 3:16.
- VI. We need to muse upon the Word, which is to carefully consider and meditate over the Word; this requires time and quiet concentration in a prayerful way; reading the Bible and prayer cannot be separated—Psa. 1:2; 119:15, 95, 147; Eph. 6:17-18.
- VII. We do well to give heed to the prophetic word as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in our hearts—2 Pet. 1:19.
- VIII. We should let the word dwell in us when we read the Bible by remembering and memorizing the Word—Col. 3:16; Psa. 119:98.
- IX. We must seek the Spirit's enlightenment and revelation in order to understand the Bible; we also need to live in our mingled spirit and become a spiritual person—Eph. 1:17; 1 Cor. 2:10.
- X. We can read the Bible with others; we may lack light when we read the Bible alone, but we will have light when we read with others—Acts 8:30-31; 18:26.