

Is the Bible Reliable?

The Big Seven, part 6
Pastor Dave Nichols, June 2, 2019

5 Reasons for Trusting the Bible:

1. The way in which _____

2. The way it was _____

(Luke 1:1-4, 1 John 1:1-3, John 20:30-31)

3. _____

(Isaiah 1:1, John 9:1-11)

4. _____

(2 Peter 1:16-21, Isaiah 53, 7:14)

5. The unity of _____

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How Should We Respond?

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This weeks discussion guide:

Welcome to week 6 of our Spring small group season! It is our prayer at GPC for our Sundays and small groups to provide the encouragement we all need to support each other as we desire to grow closer to God and build friendships in the coming weeks. This small group season will last until the week of June 9th.

May God stretch, encourage and equip us as we discuss these questions related to how we view Jesus, ourselves and our relationship to Him.

Getting Started:

The reliability of the Bible is being challenged on multiple fronts. At this point in history, and intelligent and thorough conversation about the reliability of Scripture is essential. Christians hinge their faith squarely on the words of the Bible. Therefore, if the Bible is not reliable, the implications for our faith is significant. On the other hand, if the Bible is a reliable record of historical events (not to mention theological principles), then the entire world must consider God's plan as recorded in it.

To start our discussion this week, we're going to watch two videos and discuss them. The first one is the 2.5 minute video that was shown last Sunday that is a survey of many people's responses to this week's question. The second video is a 10 minute video that is a collection of people discussing this weeks question. This video displays the various questions, struggles and perspectives of these individuals regarding this week's topic.

From the message last Sunday, what insights were helpful and/or what questions were raised for you?

How were you encouraged, challenged, stretched, confused, etc.?

Watch 1st video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EK4bGkpC7iY&feature=youtu.be>

- Did you identify with anyone's expressed views in the film? If so, who and what resonated with you?

- What does it mean that "80 percent of Americans identify the Bible as sacred literature yet only 43 percent of Christians firmly believe the Bible is accurate in all of the principles it teaches?"

Watch 2nd video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68-cYoM5Ybw&feature=youtu.be>

- In what ways can you identify with any of the stories in *The Curiosity Collective*? What did you find intriguing or compelling?

- If someone asked you to describe the story of the Bible, what would you say?

- Do you think it's possible that a book could be inspired by God? Why or why not?

- As quoted in the film, how might it be possible that the Bible is "the true human story that underlies our experience and our existence?"

- How relevant is the Bible to your everyday life?

- What might make you inclined to rely on the Bible as a source of truth or guidance in your life?

Further Discussion:

Read the following experiences from Luke 1:1-4

In verse 1, Luke acknowledges that multiple people have recorded the life and words of Jesus Christ. What are the benefits of having four gospels?

In verse 2, Luke mentions his reliance on "eyewitnesses." Why does he mention this?

What do you think Luke meant by "carefully investigating everything from the beginning?"

What did Luke mean by "orderly account?"

How does verse 4 convert God's reason for providing a book to humanity?

What causes some to doubt the inspiration of Scripture?

If you believe the Bible is from God, what lead you to this conviction?