

Doxa Series
“The Bible is true”
03/20/21
Newport News

Opening

-March 27th Discover City Life and mid April virtual life group

-7 core Christian beliefs...unlocking glorious living

- **God is one**
- **The Bible is true**
- **The Cross is enough**
- **Mankind is helpless**
- **Jesus is life**
- **Eternity is real**
- **The Church is central**

-But we aren't going to spend huge amounts of time convincing you of these doctrines, these beliefs...this series is about challenging you to consider a very specific way these beliefs should be changing the way you live!

-(let's not reduce Christianity to religious intellectualism)

Introduction (Thank you Amy Kimble for your research & Shani/David/Justin)

-doxa: *glory, splendor, grandeur, power, kingdom, praise, honor... revealed presence of God, God himself...*

-root of doxa: *to think, suppose, believe, consider, imagine...*

-So each week we are going to look at one of these 7 core Christian beliefs (re-read) and ask this question:

>How does my belief that the Bible is true inspire me to pursue a life that reveals God's glory to the world around me?

>God's mission is to reconcile the world to Himself through Jesus...what's your ultimate mission in life...beyond life roles?

>unlocking glorious living is about our lives pointing people to a living God who IS... (work through the definitions)

The Bible is true

-“Touchpoint” Bob Santos pages 76 & 77

-The Bible is true...meaning inspired.

>2 Timothy 3:16-17 (difference between source and “author”)

-The Bible is true...meaning infallible (talk about inerrancy)

(incapable of making mistakes or being wrong...compare to God)

The Bible was written over a period of roughly 2,000 years by 40 different authors from three continents, who wrote in three different languages. These facts alone make the Bible one of a kind, but there are many more amazing details that defy natural explanation.

Shepherds, kings, scholars, fishermen, prophets, a military general, a cupbearer, and a priest all penned portions of Scripture. They had different immediate purposes for writing, whether recording history, giving spiritual and moral instruction, or pronouncing judgment. They composed their works from palaces, prisons, the wilderness, and places of exile while writing history, laws, poetry, prophecy, and proverbs. In the process they laid bare their personal emotions, expressing anger, frustration, joy, and love.

Yet despite this marvelous array of topics and goals, the Bible displays a flawless internal consistency. AnswersInGenesis.org

-The Bible is true...meaning authoritative (more than inspirational)

>(tell story of Jesus finding me as a bartending in 1990...)

>(reading Gospel of John for the first time...)

>I was ready for Scripture to be the final authority for my life!

-I like this doctrine coming after “God is one” because if we believe that God is divine, that He is perfect in every way, then why do we struggle with believing He is capable of giving us a sacred text that is inspired, infallible, and authoritative?

-How does my belief that the Bible is true inspire me to pursue a life that reveals God's glory to the world around me?

-Proverbs 1:20-23 (NLT and NASB)

-I want my life to be an echo of the wisdom of Scripture to the world around me! (reading regularly keeps that voice present!)

Jacob, Leah, Rachel, and Laban

-I share this story tonight because I believe it is a powerful historical account of how Godly people make choices and decisions that are continually in stark contrast to the character of God they worship as revealed in Scripture! Is this me? Is my life an echo of God's wisdom or does it stand in contrast?

-Genesis 29:14b-30

-(pause, for marriages...seasons of disappointment, be willing to wait for the Rachel in them that is coming...possibly a response moment?)

Questions I'm asking myself?

-I'm not trying to teach you the questions you should be asking...I'm trying to model in this series what I am asking each of you to do...answer THAT QUESTION (point to screen) and then ask the Holy Spirit to give you questions that get even more personal! (HAVE GOAL OF 7 QUESTIONS)

1. ***When the norms of culture conflict with the standards of God's character, which am I choosing?*** (Laban's excuse)
 - Can't outrun reciprocity
 - Genesis 48 & 49 (Jacob's epiphany)
 - No one can take from you what God intends to give you
2. ***When those in power victimize the marginalized and innocent, will I protest?*** (Laban's household and community)
3. ***What veils am I wearing because I am afraid of disappointing others?*** (Leah)

-How does my belief that the Bible is true inspire me to pursue a life that reveals God's glory to the world around me?

Close/Band

-You know what else the belief that the Bible is true tells me...Scripture from Genesis to Revelation has this message throughout: I need a Savior! (present the Gospel)