

Deep Life

4/13/08

Director: Kaila



- 8:15 Worship Team
9:00 Leader's Meeting (Prayer, People, Program)
- 9:35 Greetings!
Open in Prayer – Kaila – and call to worship

Worship:
(Scott and Conner gone for Mexico)

- 9:55 JH Upstairs

HS+C Announcements (Matt P) (1 big, 5 small) (5min)

- Mission for Life – April 13, 2-4pm.
- HS – Night 2 Invite
- College – Monday nights 7:30pm. Tomorrow is our last one before our break!
- HS Girls – Pottery with Shaunarie.
- Lunch today?
- Grow – read your Bibles and walk with Jesus!
- Birthdays?

- 10:05 Lesson: **Can I Trust the Bible (with my life)?** (Scott and Dana)

MAIN POINT: The Bible is reliable and you can trust it – so much that you can build your whole life on it.

Hook – Doubts (Dana/5min)

- Have you ever had doubts about the Bible? What were they?
- What about science and history – how can we know the Bible is accurate?
- What about other religions – how can we know that the Bible is right?

You Can Trust the Bible (Scott/7min/10:10)

- 40 authors over 1500 years – but there is an amazing unity. (If you check out 40 different books written over 1000 years at the library, how much unity would there be?)
- The Bible was METICULOUSLY copied – letter by letter – the monks saw it as a lifelong act of prayer and devotion – and if there was one error – they threw away the whole copy.
 - o Bruce Metzger – over 20,000 lines in NT – only 40 are debatable, and none of these is essential to the Christian faith.
 - o We have over 5,000 copies of the NT (some only 100 years after Jesus) – compared to 5 of Aristotle and 10 of Julius Caesar.
 - o The Dead Sea Scrolls, found in 1948 – copies of OT from 100BC – matched our copies of the Hebrew Bible almost exactly!
 - o No book in history has been as attacked and dissected more than the Bible – and the Bible still stands.
- The Bible is without error in its originals – we don't have those, but we have reliable copies. Translations, though, aren't perfect. ALL of the Bible is God's Word – we don't get to pick and choose (like Jefferson did!).
- Read 2 Tim 3.16-17

Groups (5min/10:17)

1. How did hearing all of that information change how you think about the Bible's reliability?
2. How much work did God's people give for me and you to have our Bibles?
3. How will this change how you treat your Bible? How you read your Bible?

"To transform religious and irreligious students into Fully Devoted Followers of Christ."

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Trusting the Bible with Your Life (Scott/8min/10:22)

- Is the Bible important? Influential?
- Multiple billions in print, millions more every year; 1st book printed on Gutenburgs' press
- Family – Bible = love, monogamy; no plying, wife as property, sex outside of marriage (contrast to our divorce and sex culture now)
- Labor – the Golden Rule and work ethic (Eph 6)
- Race Relations – Gal 3.28. Though some misused the Bible – Christians were front workers in the fight to end slavery and for equal rights
- Law – objective truth – king not above law – if everyone lived God's law, what would the world be like?
- Punishment – innocent until proven guilty, how to treat criminals (not chopping off hand)
- Poor and Needy – Mother Teresa, Salvation Army, World Vision, Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity – all christen. Hospitals – started by Christians (1st in Rome at 400ad) – most still have Christians names
- Politics – no perfect government, but the Bill of Rights, Constitution, Magna Carta – all heavily influenced by the Bible
- Education – Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and every other early American college started specifically to advance the learning of Scripture and salvation.
 - o Inscription at the entrance to Harvard: “After God had carried us safe to New England, and we had built our houses, provided necessities for our livelihood, reared convenient places for God's worship, and settled the civil government; on of the next things we longed for, and looked after was the advance learning, and perpetuate it to posterity; dreading to leave a illiterate ministry to the churches, when our present ministers shall lie in the dust.”
- Art – the greatest themes of art and architecture have come from the Bible – creation, fall, flood, crucifixion, last supper
- Music – the grates composer of all time – JS Bach – had many biblical themes in his music (i.e. “St Matthew's Passion); started each piece with J.J. (Jesu Juban) and ended with S.D.G (Soli Deo Gloria)
 - o Bach a huge influence on Beethoven, Mozart, and Mendelssohn
 - o Earliest recorded music – Gregorian chant
- Literature – Dante, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Spenser, Tolstoy, C.S. Lewis, Tolkein, Dickens, Twain, and on and on and on – all influenced and interacting with the Bible
 - o Some colleges require a Bible class for their English majors
 - o “A student of English literature who does not know the Bible does not understand a great deal of what is going on in what he reads.”
- Our world has been shaped by the Bible – why? Because people have been changed by TRUSTING the Bible. God speaks to us through the Bible – and changes our lives – and changes our world.

Groups (5min/10:30)

1. What was the one thing that you learned today that really stood out to you?
2. Do you think that if people understood the influence the Bible has had on society it would affect the way they value the Bible?
3. What would it mean for you to have the Bible be THE book you based your life on?

Punch – Life on the Rock (Dana/5min/10:35)

- Battleship and the Lighthouse
- Matt 7.24 – build your life on the foundation of God – by hearing AND putting them into practice
- *Main point!*

Pray in groups (5min)

10:45 Close in Prayer