

THE EXPLOSIVE POWER OF GOD'S WORD
Hebrews 4:12-13; Isaiah 55:9-11; 2 Timothy 3:16-17
Community Group Homework

Getting Started

Recall the first Bible you ever received. Who gave it to you? What did you think about the gift?

Going Deeper

1. Did any Scripture originate with human initiative alone? **2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Timothy 3:16**

2. Peter tells us that the Bible writers were “carried along by the Holy Spirit.” The Greek picture is a sailboat that is borne along by the wind. Given that imagery, how did the Holy Spirit work with the writers of Holy Scripture?

3. Some skeptics cynically say “you can make the Bible say anything.” According to **2 Peter 1:20** did the prophets say whatever they wanted to say or is there one meaning that God intended?

4. Read **Hebrews 4:12-13**. The Bible claims to be a living communication from God about the deepest things of life. What are some deep things that the Bible addresses?

5. “Truth is a doubled-edged sword.” What does that mean and what difference does it make to you?

6. **2 Timothy 3:16** says “all Scripture is inspired or God-breathed.” What does that descriptive expression “God-breathed” tell you about the degree to which we should revere the Bible?

7. Read **Matthew 5:17-18**. Some teachers say that the Bible is only authoritative in its message and that the details are not important. Is that what Jesus taught? How reliable are the words of the Bible?

Growing Stronger

1. According to **2 Timothy 3:17**, in what ways is the Bible useful to the believer? Have you experienced any or all of these uses?

2. What conditions must you fulfill to experience the power of answered prayer? **John 15:7**

3. What does it mean to “remain” or “abide” in Christ?

4. What does it mean to have God's Word "remain" or "abide" in you?

5. Based on what Jesus said, why do you think your prayer life would be more powerful if you knew the promises in God's Word?

6. Read *Isaiah 55:9-11*. What would you like God's Word to accomplish in your life in 2014?

Getting Together

Share the prayer needs within the group and pray for one another.