



# God's Word Is Our Foundation

## *Lesson Focus*

The Bible is perfect and true, the completely trustworthy starting point for understanding the world. Though our own viewpoint is distorted, the Bible gives us perfect wisdom and can change our lives.

## *Key Passages*

Psalm 19:7–11, 86:11, 119:105

## *What You Will Learn*

- How to use the Bible as the starting point for making decisions.
- The qualities of God's Word.

## *Memory Verse*

**Psalm 119:89–90** Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

# Prepare to Learn

## Scriptural Background

Ever since Satan in the form of a serpent cast doubt on God's instructions in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:1-4), people have questioned the authority of God's Word. As descendants of Adam, we have inherited a sinful nature (Romans 5:12, Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:8-10), which corrupts our human reasoning, questions God's authority, and prevents us from embracing the truth.

The Bible says, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105). This reminds us that we cannot move along the path of life without God's Word providing the light of truth to guide us. The Bible enables us to see the world as it truly is. Without the understanding that Scripture gives, we are lost in the dark, wondering how to accurately interpret good and evil, God and man, right and wrong. We are left with a distorted view of history, science, and society. The testimony of the Lord, however, is undistorted and sure (Psalm 19:7).

## Historical/Apologetics Background

The proper role of apologetics is to confirm what we know of God through His Word. It is not a series of explanations attempting to prove that the Bible is true or that there is a God.

As Christians, we start with the assumption that God exists and that

In Psalm 19, King David powerfully reveals the supremacy of Scripture. The perfection of the Word leads to conversion of the soul, the surety of the Word brings wisdom, the righteousness of the Word rejoices the heart, and the purity of the Word lights the way. The Word of God is clean, true, and righteous, producing the fear of the Lord necessary for repentance. Verse 11 summarizes the intention of the Word—that we may be warned to keep the commandments and achieve the promised reward.

Those who stand in awe of God, who are bound to Him without compromise, and who submit their minds to the teaching of Scripture are those who have a solid foundation and are able to connect the Bible to real life.

Our response to God and His Word should be to join the Psalmist in praying, "Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name" (Psalm 86:11).

His Word is true. This serves as the starting point for our beliefs. This is called *presuppositional thinking* because we are presupposing that what God says about Himself is true.

Jesus set the example for us in this way of thinking through His life, ministry, and teaching. All of

Jesus' messages presupposed that the Scriptures were true.

He knew the Scriptures so well that learned men marveled (John 7:15). He quoted Scripture as historical fact, referencing some of the most attacked accounts in the Bible, including creation (Matthew 19:4-5), Noah and the Flood (Matthew 24:37-39), Sodom and Gomorrah (Matthew 10:15, 11:23-24), Lot and his wife (Luke 17:28-32), and Jonah and the fish (Matthew 12:39-41).

He said the writings of Moses are more powerful than even someone rising from the dead (Luke 16:29-31).

He defended Himself against Satan with God's Word (Matthew 4:4-10).

In the same way, we must rely on God's Word as the starting point for all of our judgments and beliefs. Others may insist that we "leave the Bible out of it" when discussing God, creation, absolute truth, morality, science, or the Bible itself. However, we cannot and must not. Christians stand on the Word of God—it is our foundation (Luke 6:47-49). Everything we believe and how we live are based on what it says.

Disregarding the Scriptures would result in disaster because our foundation would be destroyed. Our starting point is and must always be the Bible. We see the importance of this from the very beginning. Even in the Garden of Eden, the battle was over the authority of the Word of God. The serpent asked Eve, "Did God really say that?" (Genesis 3:1).

We are facing a crisis of unbelief

among young people in our culture today. One reason for this is that so many have discounted the book of Genesis. They are asking, "Did God really do that?" and being told, "No, He did not, and you don't have to believe it."

This is a sad state of affairs. It wasn't too long ago that Genesis was taken literally and there was little controversy over its interpretation. In the late 1700s and early 1800s, the history of Genesis came under attack by scientists who began to accept the idea of millions of years of history rather than the thousands of years God records in His Word.

This interpretation brought compromise in the areas of biology—Darwinian evolution replacing God's creation of kinds; geology—millions of years replacing the Flood history of Genesis; anthropology—man descended from ape-like ancestors replacing God's creation of man in His own image; astronomy—the big bang replacing God's amazing account of speaking the universe into existence.

As our culture has adopted these secular views, the Bible has been disconnected from reality and consequently is becoming less and less relevant—especially to the younger generations. These compromises have torn down the foundations of biblical authority and trust in God's Word. The result? Jesus gave us the answer when He asked Nicodemus, "If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?" (John 3:12)

Many no longer believe the earthly things that Jesus was referring to. And, consequently, even the heavenly things—redemption, hope, eternity with God, forgiveness, Christ's Resurrection, the Trinity,

and judgment—are no longer of any interest to us. It is time to get back to the foundational beliefs of the Word of God, beginning in Genesis.

For more information on this topic, see the Online Resource Page.

## Studying God's Word

What are the most pressing problems in our society today?

---

---

---

---

Take notes as you study the following passages.

**Psalm 86:11**

---

---

---

---

**Psalm 119:105**

---

---

---

---



## What Is God's Word?

Identify the various roles of God's Word from Psalm 19:7–11.

| Identity | Description | Role             |
|----------|-------------|------------------|
| Law      | Perfect     | Revives the soul |

## God's Word in the Real World

1. In what areas do you see someone's worldview having the most impact on that person's life?
2. Where do you see a difference in worldview causing conflict in your life and relationships with others?
3. Why do people reject the Bible as the absolute authority?
4. How would you attempt to change a person's understanding of the Bible's authority and reliability?
5. Do you recognize any areas in your life where you are not looking to God's Word as the absolute authority? How can you change your attitudes?

## Prayer Requests

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---