

2011 – MINISTRY TRAINING

1. Approaching the Text

Psalm 1

- 1 Blessed is the man
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
- 2 but his delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law he meditates day and night.
- 3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not wither.
In all that he does, he prospers.
- 4 The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
- 6 for the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

What does the blessed life look like?

How does that contrast with the life of the wicked?

Which description fits your life?

What practically could you do to live a fruitful, blessed life?

Approaching the Text: What is it?

It is a human book – 66 books

Implication:

Understanding Words –

Understand Sentences –

Understanding Context –

Understanding Genre-



It is a divine book – 1 Author

2 Tim 3:15-17 ...and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

Why is the Bible different from other books?

What does the Bible do?

Scriptures Self-testimony:

OT - Exodus 32:16 ; Jeremiah 30:2 ; Isaiah 30:8

2 Peter 1v19-21

NT - 2 Peter 3:15-16; 1 Timothy 5:18

Jesus attitude to the OT.

Matthew 19 v4-6; Matthew 5 v17-18

Jesus attitude to his own Words

Mark 13 v31

When C H Spurgeon was asked to defend the Bible he said:

***Defend the Bible? I would just as soon defend a lion.
Just turn the Bible loose. It will defend itself.***

Verbal/plenary inspiration – WINDOW vs MIRROR

Events + Explanation = REVELATION

eg - 1 Corinthians 15 v3.

Inerrancy:

Psalm 12:6; Psalm 18:30; Psalm 119:160; John 17v17

Chicago Statement

Holy Scripture, as the inspired Word of God witnessing authoritatively to Jesus Christ, may properly be called 'infallible' and 'inerrant'. These negative terms have a special value, for they explicitly safeguard crucial positive truths.

'**Infallible**' signifies the quality of neither misleading nor being misled and so safeguards in categorical terms the truth that Holy Scripture is a sure, safe and reliable rule and guide in all matters.

Similarly, '**inerrant**' signifies the quality of being free from all falsehood or mistake and so safeguards the truth that Holy Scripture is entirely true and trustworthy in all its assertions.

Authority:

Continental Divide – an authority vs final authority!

Sufficiency:

2 Timothy 3:15-17; Isaiah 55:10-11; Jeremiah 23:29; Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12

Necessity:

Matthew 4v4; Deuteronomy 8v3; Deut 32 v46; Psalm 1

Principles of Interpretation derived from above

1. Analogy of Faith/Scripture
2. Clear Scriptures interpret the less clear.
3. Didactic interprets the Narrative
4. Seek the Balance of Scripture

The Necessity of Application

James 1 v22-25; 1 Timothy 4 v13-16

‘the most valuable thing that this world affords.’

R	E
S	T

Books for further study.

Mortimer J. Adler, Charles Van Doren, *How to Read a Book*.

Nigel Beynon & Andrew SachGordon, *Dig Deeper*.

RC Sproul, *Knowing Scripture*

Grudem, Wayne. *Bible Doctrine*, chapters 2–3. Edited by Jeff Purswell.

Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1999.
Packer, J.I. *Fundamentalism and the Word of God*. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1984

Machen, JG *Christianity & Liberalism*.

Personal Application Questions:

1. How should your understanding of the nature of Scripture affect your approach to Scripture?
2. How can you grow in the area of prayerful meditation on God’s Word?
3. What is your plan for ensuring that you are not a “hearer” only? How will you apply the sermons you hear and the Scripture you read to your everyday life?

Ministry Training - Wednesday		
January 12 th	Session 1	Approaching the Text
January 26 th	Session 2	Observing the Text
February 9 th	Session 3	Applying the Text
February 23 rd	Session 4	Applying the OT Text
March 9 th	Session 5	Instruments – Love
March 16 th	Session 6	Instruments – Know
March 23 rd	Session 7	Instruments - Speak
March 30 th	Session 8	Instruments – Do