



SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT AND STUDY GUIDE

Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022

Series: The Mechanics of the Bible

Lesson Title: Where Did We Get The Bible From?

Key Verse: Proverbs 4:7...with all thy getting, get understanding.

Instructions for This Week:

1. Take this week to study your Sunday School lesson prior to coming to class.
2. Do the homework assignments throughout this study guide.
3. Bring the study guide along with your answers to class.

See you there!

Introduction

Welcome to the series, "**The Mechanics of the Bible**". In this series we are going to talk about the **BIBLE**.

The Bible sits on the desk, nightstands, and bookshelves of millions of people. Passed down from generation to generation, the Bible is the best-selling book of all-time, and generally respected even by people of other religions. In our modern society, the accessibility of the Bible has increased

all the more, being fully available online and through digital apps on our smartphones and tablets.

However, the Bible can seem like a big intimidating book. But, the point of this series is to help you understand that the Bible doesn't have to be so intimidating. So, I encourage you to read the Bible and put its principles in practice so that you can grow deeper in your relationship with Jesus Christ, walk out the plan that God has for your life and make it to heaven.

What is the Bible?

The Bible is the written Word of God and is the ultimate set of guiding principles governing all areas of life for the people of God. Through these writings, God communicates His will, His laws, His nature, His transformative power and His saving grace to humanity.

In addition to all the above,

- **It gives us spiritual guidance:** *“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, And a light unto my path”.* (Psalm 119:105)
- **Following it will keep us from sin:** *“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word”.* (Psalm 119:9)
- **The Bible is a weapon in spiritual warfare:** *“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil”.* (Ephesians 6:11)
- **The Bible includes a powerful set of testimonies from characters of the Bible for empowerment and encouragement.** Remember Noah and the ark? Joseph's coat of many colors? Daniel in the lion's den? Jonah and the fish? The parables of Jesus? *“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which*

doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,” (Hebrews 12:1)

- **And More...**

Assignment: List two ways the Bible helps us in our spiritual walk.

1. _____
2. _____



Where Did We Get the Bible?

It's not like the Bible just dropped out of the sky one day. The Bible came to us over a number of years. But, before we get into the details of that, we need to understand that the Bible is **inspired** by **God**.

The Bible isn't some book that humans put together or that some religious philosophical types assembled. The Bible comes from God Himself.

2 Timothy 3:16 says;

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

Notice what it says in **2 Timothy 3:16**. The Bible is **inspired by God**. These are the words from God Himself. In fact, the words in the Bible did not come from a person, they came from God.

So, it is important for us to understand that when you read the Bible, you are reading the Word of God. And, God Himself is with you. I mean, you probably have never read a book and had the author sitting next to you the whole time when you read it but that's what's happening with the Bible. The Bible is God's Word and God is everywhere. And, God is with you while you are reading His Word.

John 1:1

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, **and the Word was God.***

So, understand that you are going to encounter God in the Bible and God is going to speak to you through His Word.

1. Assignment: Who was the Bible inspired by (2 Timothy 3:16)?

2. Assignment: When you read the Bible, you are reading the

_____.

How was the Bible Written?

Although the Bible is inspired by God, it was written by human authors. The authors were from different backgrounds – some were simple farmers or fishermen while others were doctors, scholars or royalty – and from different periods of history.

Think about that. Over 40 different people sat down to write pieces of the Bible. These people had a somewhat common understanding about God but they lived in different cultures. They spoke in different languages. They lived in different eras of time. And what's so amazing is that even though there were so many authors, and even though this happened over a period of approximately 1,500 years, the Bible tells **ONE STORY**.

One unified story about God, humanity, God's people, our sin and our redemption.

How were they able to do that? It's because the Bible was inspired by God. It comes from God Himself. And, as a result, we can trust it and know that it is true in what it says.

1. Assignment: Although the Bible is inspired by God, it was written by over _____ different authors.

2. Assignment: Even though there were so many authors, and even though this happened over a period of approximately 1,500 years, the Bible tells _____.

How Did We Get The Bible?

So, how did this all come together? How were the writings of 40 different authors over thousands of years gathered into one book?

The Bible comes to us through translation. The Bible wasn't originally written to us in English. In fact, the Bible has been translated into many languages of the world, such as Spanish, French, German, etc.

The Bible was originally written in three languages: **Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek**. Most of the **Old Testament** was written in **Hebrew**, and a few chapters were written in **Aramaic**. The **New Testament** was written in **Greek**.

Our main version we use is the King James Version (KJV) we also use the New International Version (NIV) and the New Living Translation (NLT) etc. We use these versions because they are basically true to the original text, however, there are others that you can use as well.

Assignment: What three languages was the Bible originally written in?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Owning Your Own Personal Bible

If you do not own a physical Bible, I strongly encourage you to get one because a personal Bible is one of the greatest treasures you can carry with you through life and it will serve you well.

Here are some benefits of owning a physical Bible as opposed to always borrowing one or using a device.

- A physical Bible limits your distractions.
- A physical Bible teaches you the structure of the Bible.

- You can commemorate significant lessons God taught you through His Word by taking notes in it or highlighting your favorite passages.
- A physical Bible helps you remember what you've read.
- You can have a physical legacy of spending time in God's Word to pass along to your children or grandchildren, and a treasure to leave them.
- You can use it as an opportunity to share your faith when someone sees you with your Bible, like at a coffee shop or in the car or when sitting outside.
- You can become familiar with the books of the Bible, their placement, and the overall story of scripture.
- You can hold in your hands a physical reminder that God is real, that He speaks, and He loves you.

Assignment: List two benefits of owning a physical Bible:

1. _____

2. _____
