SERMON NOTES

SCRIPTURE ALONE

1 Peter 1:21; Mark 7:13; 2 Timothy 3:12-17

BIG IDEA: Scripture alone is our highest and final authority.

APPLICATION GUIDE

OCTOBER 25, 2026

DISCUSS

When two people or sources you trust give you conflicting advice, how do you decide which one to follow? Can you think of an example?

We encounter competing authorities all the time—experts, traditions, personal experiences, and our own opinions. But when it comes to what we believe and how we live, who gets the final say? That's the question at the heart of Sola Scriptura: Scripture alone is our highest and final authority.

EXPLORE

According to 2 Timothy 3:14–17, what makes Scripture uniquely authoritative, and how is its authority different from that of pastors, church traditions, or other human authorities?

Paul identifies four ways Scripture is profitable: teaching, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness (v. 16). What does each of these accomplish in the believer's life, and why do we need all four?

What does Paul mean when he says Scripture makes the man of God "complete, equipped for every good work" (v. 17)? What does this teach us about the sufficiency of Scripture, and what does it not mean?

APPLY

Scripture governs what we believe. What is one belief, conviction, or personal opinion you've had to reconsider because of what Scripture teaches? What does that reveal about the importance of submitting our thinking to God's Word?

Scripture directs how we care for one another. When you face problems such as anxiety, discouragement, conflict, or suffering, how can you make God's Word more central to the way you understand and respond to those struggles?

Scripture leads us to Christ. Jesus warned that it is possible to know the Scriptures and yet fail to come to Him (John 5:39–40). How can we recognize when our Bible reading and study are producing more knowledge without greater love for, trust in, and obedience to Christ?