

Message Notes | The Bible

Part 2: Why Trust the Bible?

2 Peter 1:16-21

- understanding what the Bible claims to be
- what qualified Peter to write - **2 Peter 1:16-18**

#1 The Bible was written by _____, not _____.

- something completely reliable - **2 Peter 1:19**
- the data on biblical manuscripts

#2 The Bible we have today has been _____ (perhaps even _____) preserved.

- many writers, one Author - **2 Peter 1:20-21**

#3 Verbal inspiration:
God guided the _____ that held the _____.

- Jesus trusted it - John 5:39, Luke 24:27

#4 Faith is about trusting _____.
I trust the Bible because that _____ is _____.

- from defending to depending

Group Questions | The Bible

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1. What was your first memory of holding a Bible? What did you think about that book as you were holding it?
2. There are many objections to the Bible being God's Word. Which are some of the more common ones you've experienced? Which ones are most difficult to address?
3. Read **2 Peter 1:16-18**. These words, written near the end of Peter's life, reflect his view toward Scripture. What was his view?
4. In **2 Peter 1:19**, Peter describes the Scriptures as "completely reliable," not because he could explain them all, but because Jesus had fulfilled them all. How does this Jesus-centered confidence affect the way you approach difficult or confusing parts of the Bible?
5. The Bible has been meticulously preserved over thousands of years to the point where we are fully confident about its original message. How might this influence the way we view and use the Bible today?
6. Read **2 Peter 1:20-21**. Verbal inspiration means that God gave people the words to write, but he used their perspective, language, and tone. How does this impact the way you read and connect with Scripture?
7. What's the difference between needing to defend the Bible and wanting to depend on the Bible? What will it look like for you to depend on it more this week?

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- something completely reliable - **2 Peter 1:19**
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#2 The Bible we have today has been meticulously (perhaps even miraculously) preserved.

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#3 Verbal inspiration:

God guided the hands that held the pens.

- Jesus trusted it - John 5:39, Luke 24:27

#4 Faith is about trusting a Person.

I trust the Bible because that Person is alive.

- from defending to depending

Bible Reading for Today

2 Peter 1:16-21

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain.

¹⁹We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. ²¹For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.