

A person is walking away from the viewer on a wide, sandy beach. The beach is bordered by the ocean on the left, with waves breaking. In the background, there are dark, rugged mountains under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The overall scene is bright and open, suggesting a sense of freedom and a new beginning.

fresh
start

Knowing and Loving the Bible

Hebrews 4:12

3 ASPECTS OF KNOWING THE BIBLE

1. Bible Facts: Is the Bible reliable?
2. It's Alive!: What does the Bible says about itself? How God's Word impacts us?
3. Flying Solo: How do I study the Bible and Grow? Making a plan.

WHY ?

Do you believe
the Bible to be
true and
reliable?

But in your hearts honor
Christ the Lord as holy,
always being prepared to
make a defense to anyone
who ask you for a reason
for the hope that is in you;
yet do it with gentleness
and respect. – 1 Peter 3:15

BIBLE FACTS – WHAT WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE BIBLE

One Story

- 66 Books
- written of a 1500 year period of history
- 40 authors inspired by the Holy Spirit
- God's redemption of man

WRITTEN IN THE CONTEXT OF HUMAN HISTORY

...This is not like a Star Wars movie or Marvel comic or Greek mythology.

Events are historically accurate.

Comparisons to ancient writings

TEXTUAL CRITICISM

Comparing all of the copies that have been discovered.

Comparing copies closer to the original to copied written later.

Dead Sea scrolls discovered in 1947

Josh
McDowell

Evidence
that
Demands a
Verdict

CASE FOR CHRIST

True story of an
atheist and reporter,
Lee Strobel, who set
out to write a piece
refuting the
resurrection of Jesus.

Movie Scene: Lee
interviews an expert
in ancient
archeology and
manuscripts.

The Bible Has Stood the Test of Time

Survived Persecution

John Wycliffe

William Tyndale

Martin Luther

Though outlawed, confiscated and burned in many parts of the world, the Bible has survived and thrived.

SPIRITUAL WEAPON

Threat to Satan

1 Peter 5:8 *the devil prowls round like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.*

When Satan tried to tempt Jesus in the desert, Jesus defeated him with scripture. Matthew 4

WHETHER YOU'RE FIGHTING YOUR OWN MINDSET OR THE GATES OF HELL, SCRIPTURE IS YOUR PRIMARY WEAPON.

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil...take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. – Ephesians 6:10, 17

THE BIBLE IS ALIVE

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and the intensions of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

ABIDE IN CHRIST

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:4-5

Without abiding in Christ, you can't do anything. In him, you can do all things.

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13

Daily Bread in the Desert

Spending time with God in his word is an every day experience.

God gave manna/bread to his people wandering in the desert.
– Exodus 16

DESERT LIVING

Are you in a desert with little to keep you going?

God wants to give you a meal today.

When you can't focus, write out a passage of scripture.

MAKING YOUR FAITH YOUR OWN

In a Christian environment, it is easy to be spiritually lazy and lean too heavily on others who study God's word.

Spoon fed Christians allow others to find the spiritual food and feed them without studying God's word for themselves.

MILK OR SOLID FOOD?

1 Corinthians 3:2

Hebrews 5:12

Baby Christians are called to mature and grow in Christ.

- Decide to grow
- Invest yourself
- Have a plan

MAKING A PLAN

- Set A Regular Time
- Get a good study Bible
- Pray before you begin (I Corinthians 2)
- Pick a Method

METHOD 1: PASSAGE OF SCRIPTURE

List the following:

- All the facts
- Spiritual truths
- How the truths apply to your life

METHOD 2: WORD OR THEME

Use a concordance to find all the places in the Bible where a certain word or phrase is used.

Write out the scriptures

Use other study helps for your Bible to look up related scriptures.

Write out what God is saying through these verses.

FOR A FRESH START, TRY SOMETHING NEW

Be a blessing and consider sharing what works for you or to ask questions.

We are starting a post on Facebook for you to share your Bible Study/Quiet Time resources.

Please comment in the post. Share helpful links.