



## Q Can I Trust The Bible?



### LEADER TEACHING TIP

Take off winter jackets... yes, seriously! We notice MANY times students wearing winter jackets in small group... they are warm and comfortable and about to fall asleep. Have your students take off their jackets so that they stay awake and are attentive during the lesson.

### INTRODUCTION (15 MINUTES)

#### Pray

Open your time together in prayer.

#### Checkpoint

Let's check in on the goals from our last James lesson. What kind act did you do, and how did it impact others? Also, how's your progress on seeking guidance for decisions? Have you used the Bible, prayed, or talked with any mentors?

#### Video

To view the engage video, please see the instructions stored on the back of the TV in your room. has context menu.

### READ 2 TIMOTHY 4:3-4

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (30 minutes)

#### Observation, Interpretation, and Application

1. In verse 3, what does Paul warn Timothy will happen to him?  
*A time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine – the gospel message. (Doctrine means a set of beliefs).*
2. What does Paul mean when he says, “to say what their itching ears want to hear”?  
*That people would not tolerate teachers of the truth of God's saving gospel but would look for teachers who tell them what they want to hear based on their own desires.*
3. This still happens today. You might have heard people say things like “my truth” or “your truth.” But how do you actually decide what is true?
4. In verses 3b-4, what 3 things does Paul say people will do during this time?
  - 1). They will look for teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.
  - 2). They will turn their ears away from the truth.
  - 3). They will turn aside to myths.
5. What is the result of people doing these 3 things?  
*People would believe false teachings that would cause them to turn away from God.*
6. What did Paul mean when he said they would turn their ears away from the truth?  
*The people would reject the truth of the gospel.*

7. What is something you thought was true but later found out wasn't?
8. A common myth today is that the Bible contradicts itself, what do you think? Explain or give an example.
9. How can we guard ourselves against things that seem pleasing, but go against God's word?

### Checkpoint Challenge

1. New Believer: Pick one belief you have about how Christians should live and compare it to what the Bible says. See how God's Word shapes or challenges that belief.
2. Mature Believer: Learning basic apologetics (how to defend your faith) helps you confidently defend your faith and share it with others. Start by reading or watching a video on a common question about Christianity, like "Why does God allow suffering?" or dive deeper into "Is the Bible trustworthy?". If you are looking for specific resources, check out the dive deeper section below. Spend the next two weeks reflecting on what you found to gain confidence and try discussing it with someone.

### CLOSING PRAYER IDEA/SUGGESTION (10 minutes)

Have 5-10 minutes of silent prayer. Have everyone spread out and remain silent and have eyes closed in prayer, or to quietly journal a prayer. The main intent is to carve out 5-10 minutes of silence for each student to talk alone, with God.

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### DIVE DEEPER (RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS WHO WANT TO DIVE DEEPER AFTER TONIGHT)

#### Cross References

- John 14:6; 17:17
- 2 Timothy 3:16
- Proverbs 30:5

#### Podcasts & Videos Related to this Lesson

- ▶ [Testimony of a Former False Teacher; Itching Ears: Doreen Virtue's Testimony - Truth for Life](#)
- ▶ [Why is Sound Doctrine so Important? | GotQuestions.org](#)