

spiritual infant

# DISCIPLE ME

**THE ONE ABOUT THE BIBLE**

**PART 1: REVELATION AND INSPIRATION**

## **READ: WHAT IS THE BIBLE?**

The Bible is arguably the most influential book in the history of the world. But what some may not realize is that inside the pages of the Bible is a collection of books, all of which emerged from the history of the people of ancient Israel. These books share the story of how God has rescued, is rescuing, and will rescue His people! To understand how the Bible is put together, use the QR code to watch a video that answers that question.



## **DISCUSS:**

- What was your experience with the Bible like growing up?
- What is one of your favorite stories or passages from the Bible?
- What is your relationship with the Bible like right now?

## **STUDY: 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 3:16**

*"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness"*

Because the Bible is one book made up of many books, all with varying authors and styles, every time we read a verse, pick out a passage, or study a story, the first thing we must do is understand what it is we are reading.

Take the passage above, which comes from the New Testament book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy. The book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy is actually a letter written from the Apostle Paul to his protégé Timothy. The relationship between Paul and Timothy was a special one, and Paul's goal was to help train Timothy to be a strong leader of a local church.

Understanding that this is a letter, and knowing who the author is, and the relationship between the author and the recipient, helps us fully understand and better interpret what the passage means.

Here, Paul tells his dear friend that all scripture is “God-breathed”. Paul’s choice of words here is no mistake. He’s using a picture from another book in the Bible, this one in the Old Testament, book of Genesis (2:7), which describes how God breathed life into the first man, Adam. Paul uses this picture to explain to Timothy that all the parts of the scriptures – all 66 books – and all the styles of writing – had a purpose. Just like God gave Adam life, God inspired and breathed into the scriptures, giving them a purpose and making them useful.

Specifically, he says that the purpose of the scriptures is to teach, rebuke, correct, and train a person in righteousness. God has revealed His story and inspired the writings of the Bible to help people grow and become more and more righteous. The word “righteous” means being morally correct. In other words, the reason God inspired the Bible and revealed Himself through the scriptures is to help people become more and more like Him.

### **DISCUSS:**

- How might reading the Bible help people become more righteous?
- Why might God want His story told through multiple genres (laws, history, poetry, prophecy, eye-witness accounts, letters, etc.)?
- Have you ever seen someone use the Bible in negative ways? If so, how?
- The Bible, as God's inspired word, speaks with authority about the human experience and condition. What challenges are there to viewing and choosing the Bible as an authoritative voice in our lives?

### **CHALLENGE:**

- This week, find something new in the Bible that you never knew or realized before. It could be something from the New Testament or Old Testament. It could be from any of the different genres. Just find something that is new to you. Then, make sure you share what you discovered with your Discipleship Partner(s).