

# CLARITY

CLARIFYING QUESTIONS ABOUT FAITH



## WEEK 2: IS THE BIBLE RELIABLE?

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

### OPENING QUESTIONS

(Choose the one(s) that will best get your group talking on this topic)

- When your mind wanders, what do you tend to mull over in your mind?
- On a scale of 1-10 how much did you enjoy your literature classes in school? (1=It was nap time for me, 10=It was the best part of my day!)
- How would your friends and family who are not committed Christ followers describe the Bible?
- What is the most difficult issue for you when it comes to the reliability of the Bible?
- Who do you know that this issue is a major obstacle to his or her faith?

### SERMON REFLECTIONS--Sermon from Sunday, September 17, 2017

(Audio and video available at [purposechurch.com](http://purposechurch.com)--Suggestion: bring copies of the sermon outline to look at when you discuss)

- What was most helpful to you?
- What challenged you?
- What encouraged you?

There is no other book like the Bible. Written over 1500 years, by 40 authors, covering 40 generations, 3 continents, in 3 languages with ONE story, theme, solution and plan of redemption.

- How does this bolster your confidence in the reliability of the Bible?

### **Read Luke 3:1**

In just this one verse there are 15 different verifiable historical and archaeological references. Jack Cottrell writes, "Through the wealth of data uncovered by historical and archaeological research, we are able to measure the Bible's historical accuracy. In every case where its claims can be thus tested, the Bible proves to be accurate and reliable."

- How does this bolster your confidence in the Bible?

## **DIGGING INTO DISCUSSION**

### **Hebrews 4:12-13**

- From these verses what does the author of Hebrews want us to most understand about God and His Word?

What evidence do you have in your life that the Word of God:

- is alive and active?
- penetrates to the depth of your soul and spirit?
- is able to judge the thoughts and attitudes of the heart?

### **Read Psalm 119:97-104**

- What do the enemies, teachers and elders have in common (vs. 98-100)? What is at the heart of the author's boast?
- What are some of the descriptions of the lasting or life changing impact of God's Word?
- Describe a way that you have experienced one of these?
- How do you tell the difference between "right" and "wrong" paths? What role does the Bible play?

## **LIVE IT OUT**

### **Read Psalm 119:105**

- What are the functions of a lamp or light in our physical lives? How do they help us find direction?
- What are some specific ways the Bible has been a "lamp" or "light" to provide direction in your life? What is one thing you could do this week to allow the Bible to better light your path?

### **Read 1 Peter 3:15**

- What truths from this week's sermon and study can help you to "give the reason for the hope that you have"?
  - Who is someone in your oikos that you feel led to share something from this discussion?
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**See the Suggested Resources found at [purposechurch.com/clarity](http://purposechurch.com/clarity)**

Here are some chapters from these resources that focus on this week's topic

I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be An Atheist: Chapters 9, 10, \*11, & 14

The Case For Christ: Chapters 1-6

77 FAQ's About God and The Bible

A New Kind of Apologist: Chapter 18--How to Question the Bible in a Post-Christian Culture

The Reason for God: Chapter 7--You Can't Take the Bible Literally

Cold Case Christianity: Chapters 11-14

77 FAQ's About God and The Bible

A New Kind of Apologist: Chapter 25--The Scientific Naturalist Juggernaut

The Reason for God: Chapter 6--Science Has Disproved Christianity

God's Crime Scene: Chapters 1-5