

# THE MOST POWERFUL BOOK IN THE WORLD



## THEOLOGICAL QUESTION

Is the Bible God's Word, and how does it relate to me?

## BIG IDEA

The Bible is the inspired (God-breathed) word of God, and therefore is completely accurate and the final source of absolute truth.

## SCRIPTURE USED

**2 Timothy 3:16:** *All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.*

**Hebrews 4:12:** *For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.*

**Romans 15:4:** *Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled.*

## OPENER

For the opener you will need:

- Video viewing equipment
- An internet connection which allows you to show the following three minute YouTube clip: *23 Totally Surprising Facts about the Bible*, found at <http://youtu.be/YvxVXkCDGNw>. It's highly recommended that you watch the video yourself beforehand to become familiar with the basic information. (Disclaimer: The political views of the organization posting this video do not necessarily reflect the views of Dare 2 Share.)

## ASK

- So, "Why do billions of people on earth have better access to the Bible in their native language than to any other book, movie or technology?"
- Did you learn anything new about the Bible? What?
- Why is it significant that information is so quickly discarded these days (the part about texts, tweets and Facebook posts so quickly being forgotten)?

- How does this make the Bible “look good,” so to speak?
- What’s the first thing you think of when you hear the word “authority”?
- Is being under the “authority” of God different from being under the “authority” of other humans—like a parent, teacher, boss, police officer, etc.? Why or why not?
- How far do you think God’s authority extends? Why do you think that?

### **EXPLAIN**

God is the ultimate authority. Sometimes we do not like the sound of the word “authority” and what it might mean, but being under God’s authority is different. It means we are a part of His plan for salvation, redemption, and grace! The Bible is God’s written authority—over absolutely everyone and everything.

God’s authority extends to everything, whether we acknowledge it or not. If you stand on a train track and shout, “The train is not going to hit me,” on a track that is in use—because, basically the train has authority on that track—well, you are wrong. You can shout as loud as you want to, and you can even believe that you are not in any danger, but the train has authority on the railroad and you will get hit!

### **ASK**

- Why is being under authority hard for us?
- Do you sometimes think it would be easier if we could make our own rules? Why or why not?
- Do you think everyone making their own rules about everything would bring out the worst in our selfish natures?
- Can we all be our own truth-makers? Why or why not?
- What might it look like if you woke up every day and invented all of what is true for you, and I woke up and just invented what will be “true” for me today?
- Can I please have a volunteer read 2 Timothy 3:16?
- What does this verse have to say about truth?
- Where does the Bible get its power to teach us truth from?

### **EXPLAIN**

This book, which has influenced so many people and changed so many lives, has power because of who God is: He is the One Ultimate Truth. As the Creator of all things, God alone is Lord and worthy of worship (Nehemiah 9:6). This means His words are the ultimate truth, because Truth is His own nature. We do not need to change them or try to excuse them, or to try to force them to fit into our lives on our own terms. What we desperately need is to understand that the one holy God gave us the Bible! We need to take it very seriously!