

## Understanding the Bible

*“It’s not the parts of the Bible I don’t understand that bother me,” wrote Mark Twain. “It’s the parts I do understand that give me fits.”*

### Luke 5:1-11 – Observations on the power of obeying the Word.

In this text, we see a dramatization of this core value in Peter’s life.

#### 1. Jesus makes requests of us to see how we will respond. (vs. 3-4)

*“He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then He sat down and taught the people from the boat. <sup>4</sup>When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.”* - Luke 5:3,4

#### 2. Jesus challenges us to trust & obey God’s Word in the most important areas of our lives. (vs. 4)

*“When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.”* - Luke 5:4

#### 3. We struggle in the areas where we have control or experience.

*“Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.”* - Luke 5:5a

Note: To say, “Lord, you don’t understand” often signifies a pride and control issue in us.

#### 4. We are called to give God’s Word final authority in our lives.

*“But because you say so, I will let down the nets.”* - Luke 5:5b

#### 5. Consistent results will happen when we consistently obey God.

*“When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.”* - Luke 5:6

### Answers to Common Questions:

Question: ***Does the Bible claim to be God’s Word?***

Answer: 2 Timothy 3:16-17. (c.f. 2 Peter 3:15-16)

*“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”* - 2 Peter 3:16,17

1. All of it is God’s Word. (v. 16a)

2. Its instruction is profitable. (v. 16b)

3. It is comprehensive – it meets every need. (v. 16c)

4. It can completely equip us for life and ministry. (v. 17)

Question: ***How can I apply my study of the Bible to my daily life?***

Answer: Ezra 7:10

*“For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel.”* - Ezra 7:10

1. Ezra prepared his heart to approach God’s Word.

2. Ezra prepared his heart to study God’s Word.

3. Ezra prepared his heart to practice God’s Word.

4. Ezra prepared his heart to share God’s Word.

Question: ***What convictions should I have regarding the Bible?***

Answer:

1. Even when I don’t understand... I’ll trust what God has said.

2. Although it may often seem illogical... I’ll obey what God has said.

3. While human opinions may vary... God’s Word is right.

4. I need the Word of God... as much as I need food.

### Convictions come in our lives when...

1. We have learned what the Word says on a given subject.

2. We choose to apply and obey the Word in daily life contexts.

3. We have decided what is worth living and dying for.

4. We have settled the issue before we are forced to.

### Application:

- The Daily Bread devotional booklet

- YouVersion devotional studies

- Read a Bible book, a chapter a day. Start with John or Matthew.

- Join a Bible Study, Discipleship Group or other small group.

## Understanding the Bible

“It’s not the parts of the Bible I don’t understand that bother me,” wrote Mark Twain. “It’s the parts I do understand that give me fits.”

### Luke 5:1-11 – Observations on the power of obeying the Word.

In this text, we see a dramatization of this core value in Peter’s life.

1. Jesus makes requests of us to see how we will \_\_\_\_\_.

“He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then He sat down and taught the people from the boat.

“When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” - Luke 5:3,4

2. Jesus challenges us to \_\_\_\_\_ & obey God’s Word in the most important areas of our lives. (vs. 4)

“When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” - Luke 5:4

3. We struggle in the areas where we have \_\_\_\_\_ or experience.

“Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.” - Luke 5:5a

Note: To say, “Lord, you don’t understand” often signifies a pride and control issue in us.

4. We are called to give God’s Word \_\_\_\_\_ authority in our lives.

“But because you say so, I will let down the nets.” - Luke 5:5b

5. Consistent results will happen when we consistently \_\_\_\_\_ God.

“When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.” - Luke 5:6

### Answers to Common Questions:

Question: **Does the Bible claim to be God’s Word?**

Answer: 2 Timothy 3:16-17. (c.f. 2 Peter 3:15-16)

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,<sup>17</sup> so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” - 2 Peter 3:16,17

1. \_\_\_\_\_ of it is God’s Word. (v. 16a)

2. Its instruction is \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 16b)

3. It is comprehensive – it meets every \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 16c)

4. It can completely \_\_\_\_\_ us for life and ministry. (v. 17)

Question: **How can I apply my study of the Bible to my daily life?**

Answer: Ezra 7:10

“For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel.” - Ezra 7:10

1. Ezra prepared his heart to \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word.

2. Ezra prepared his heart to \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word.

3. Ezra prepared his heart to \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word.

4. Ezra prepared his heart to \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word.

Question: **What convictions should I have regarding the Bible?**

Answer:

1. Even when I don’t \_\_\_\_\_... I’ll trust what God has said.

2. Although it may often seem illogical... I’ll obey what God has said.

3. While human \_\_\_\_\_ may vary... God’s Word is right.

4. I \_\_\_\_\_ the Word of God... as much as I need food.

### Convictions come in our lives when...

1. We have learned what the \_\_\_\_\_ says on a given subject.

2. We choose to \_\_\_\_\_ and obey the Word in daily life contexts.

3. We have decided what is worth \_\_\_\_\_ and dying for.

5. We have settled the issue \_\_\_\_\_ we are forced to.

### Application:

- The Daily Bread devotional booklet
- YouVersion devotional studies
- Read a Bible book, a chapter a day. Start with John or Matthew.
- Join a Bible Study, Discipleship Group or other small group.