

## Sermon Title: The Book That Changes Everything

by: Pastor Alan Hannah

**Scripture:** [2 Timothy 3:16-17] – <sup>16</sup> *“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; <sup>17</sup>so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.”*

**Big Idea:** The Bible isn't just a book you read; it's a book that reads you.

Firm Foundation: What We Stand On [Matthew 7:24-27]

### **THE FOUNDATION:**

*“Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.”* [Psalm 119:105]

God's Word is a lamp for our journey through life... not a floodlight.

### **WHAT THE BIBLE CLAIMS TO BE:**

“Inspired” literally means “God-breathed.” God breathed into EVERY word of ALL of the Bible.

*“<sup>20</sup>Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, <sup>21</sup>or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God.”* [2 Peter 1:20-21]

Scripture writers were carried by the very breath of God. The words are both fully human and fully divine.

The Old and New Testaments are inerrant as originally given, verbally inspired by God, and a complete revelation of His will for our salvation.

### **WHAT THE BIBLE DOES:**

- Teaching – tells you what is true.
- Rebuking – shows you where you've gotten it wrong.
- Correcting – shows you the way back.
- Equipping - – shapes your life.

*“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.”*  
[Hebrews 4:12]

### **PRACTICAL STEPS IN READING THE BIBLE.**

1. Come to it with submission, not just curiosity.
2. Let it speak before anyone else.
3. Read it in community.
4. Don't wait until you understand it all to obey what you already know.

## Life Group Discussion Questions

### Sermon Title: The Book That Changes Everything [2 Timothy 3:16-17]

#### WARM-UPS:

1. What was your attitude toward reading the Bible when you were younger, and how has that changed on how you relate to Scripture?
2. What is a specific passage of Scripture that has brought you comfort or direction recently?

#### DISCUSSION:

1. Several times, Pastor Alan reiterated the “Big Idea,” *“The Bible isn’t just a book you read; it’s a book that reads you.”* In what ways have you found that to be true?
2. When have you tried to use the Bible as a “floodlight” rather than a “lamp” for your life’s journey? What was the situation? How did God’s Word eventually give you what you needed for that specific moment?
3. Pastor Alan stated, *“The Bible was not written to you. It was written for you.”* The French philosopher Dr. Emile Caillet on reading the Beatitudes for the first time wrote in his book, *Journey into Light*, *“This was the Book that would understand me! I needed it so much...”* How have you found these statements to be true in your Bible reading and that God-breathed and Spirit-carried words transcend every culture and time?
4. Review the four things (teaching, rebuking, correcting, equipping) that Paul listed the scripture is useful for. When was the last time you were convicted by something you read in the Bible? How did the Holy Spirit show you the way back to truth? When did the word of God prove to be *“alive and active and sharper than any two-edged sword...”*?
5. In "The Wonder of the Book," Professor Dyson Hague explored wonders of the Bible's unique nature, including its formation (over 1500 years by 40+ authors), unity (despite diversity of authorship), its preservation (survivability against efforts to destroy it), its subject matter and influence (Christ-centered nature and unparalleled impact on history). Which of these “wonders” stand out or are important to you? Why? How do these wonders confirm the reliability of the Bible?
6. What did you find most challenging, helpful, or inspiring in the sermon today, and what will you do differently as a result? What did the Holy Spirit impress upon you?

**IN THE WORD:** Read the following scriptures passages and discuss how they apply to this week’s sermon about the Word of God.

- Psalm 19:7-11
- Matthew 5:18
- Psalm 119:160
- Luke 24:32
- 2 Timothy 4:3-4

#### PRACTICE:

Pastor Alan gave us four practical steps in reading the Bible. How does your approach and heart posture to reading Scripture need to change? As you read His Word, ask God to enlighten and illuminate your mind and heart.