



Title: Responding to the Word

Date: May 29, 2022

Scripture Text: 2 Timothy 3:14-17

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

In today's sermon we read from the last letter Paul wrote and it was written to his spiritually adopted son Timothy ([1:2](#)). Paul is encouraging Timothy to stay the course concerning God's word. God's word demands a response. To read it and not change is, as the Bible describes, a man who looks at himself in the mirror, then walks away forgetting what he looks like (what he needs to fix) ([James 1:23-24](#)). Let us look at what it means to respond to the word of God.

I. Know the Word (2 Tim. 3:14-15)

It is up to us to know God's word. We are responsible for taking the time to read, study and ingest its truths. To do it well requires time and effort, but the reward is great! The goal of *knowing the word* is a personal relationship with God, not just learning facts! People can know stories of the Bible, but not know Jesus because they have never received salvation by trusting in Him! It is the story of God which shows us that man is sinful and helpless and in need of a rescuer. God shows us Jesus is our rescuer because of His finished work on the cross: His death, burial, and resurrection.

- Describe what it means to 'be in the Word'.
- Is it important to be in the Word in order to know the Word?
- How regular are you in the Word?
- Describe your typical quiet time.
 - Does your typical quiet time lend itself to you increasing your knowledge of God's word and growing in your relationship with Him?
- What are some things you can do to increase your knowledge of God's word?

II. Own the Word (2 Tim. 3:16)

It is crucial that we understand that the Bible is God-inspired (God-breathed). It is the literal word of God! As such, there is great value in knowing it and doing it! This verse not only describes what the Bible is, but also what it does.

- What are the four items mentioned that the Bible does?
- What is an example of each?
- What are some practical ways you can 'own the Word'?

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If you have a need or a prayer request, contact the church office.

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III. Make the Word Known (2 Tim. 3:17)

God uses His word to prepare and equip us to do what He calls us to do (every good work). That good work includes making God's word known to others. Then they can have the opportunity to experience the power of the Word of God, especially unto salvation.

- What are ways the Bible has prepared and equipped you?
- Why, at times, do we feel unprepared and unequipped to be used by God?
- How can 'knowing the Word', and 'owning the Word', enable us to 'make the Word known'?