

# ancient words

A SERMON SERIES ON THE POWER & TRUSTWORTHINESS THE SACRED SCRIPTURES

## week four:

## Trust God's Word

### welcome:

What's your go-to news source?

### worship:

Sing, *I TRUST IN GOD*

**Introduction:** The way we view ourselves will determine how we live. The world often shows us a warped version of ourselves. God's Word is like a mirror, through which we see our true reflection and how God is conforming us into the image of His Son. The bottom line is our true selves in Jesus is who we are. So, we must learn to trust the fidelity of God's Word, so we may see areas in our lives God wants to address, and see our spiritual progress, to become deeply rooted in that truth, and live confidently as the people of God, not conformed to the world!

### word:

Read **1 Timothy 1:15-16, James 1:23-25.**

The Bible is not just a book— it is the holy Word of God. We need to treat it as special, set-apart, and holy in our lives. If we are going to align our lives with the truth of the Bible, it's important for us to know why we believe and do what it says. Here's why:

#### **1. Recorded history corroborates it.**

*Psalm 33:4 (NIV)*

- A. Eyewitness accounts.
- B. Recorded and copied with extreme care.
- C. Archeological confirmation.

#### **2. Scientific studies support its claims.**

*Psalm 148:5-6*

- A. There was a time when scientists believed the earth was flat, but the Bible calls the earth a sphere/circle. Isaiah 40:22.
- B. The earth hangs on nothing. Job 26:7.
- C. The stars are innumerable. Jeremiah 33:22.
- D. God commanded to the Israelites that certain animals are not meant for food due to toxicity.
- E. Medieval scientists mistakenly believed that bloodletting was a cure for all illnesses. Modern medicine calls that practice pseudo-science. Leviticus 17:11
- F. The science of quarantine is taught in the Bible. Leviticus 13:4.

#### **3. The accuracy of prophecies and fulfillments.**

Prophecies about the Messiah are so accurately fulfilled and are being fulfilled. 2 Peter 1:21, Matthew 26:56, Revelation 22:6.

#### **4. The coherence of its message is unmatched.**

The Holy Bible was written over a period of 1600 years in over a dozen countries on three continents by 40 people in three different languages all pointing to the same crux, Jesus. Luke 24:27.

#### **5. Following its commands bring joy and blessing.**

People who live by the Word of God are happier and more satisfied in life. John 8:31-32. Jeremiah 15:16.

#### **6. The Bible could not be suppressed.**

Over time, people and governments tried to suppress the Scriptures, but they failed. The Bible is the most despised, derided, denied, disputed, dissected, debated, outlawed and destroyed book ever. 1 Peter 1:24-25. You can either question it, debate it, deny it or deconstruct it, OR you can believe it, submit to it and live it.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. What important truth did you learn from this message?

2. Name three things you believe to be true about yourself. Who or what was the mirror that reflected these things to you? Do these ideas align with what God's Word says about you?

3. Is it difficult for you to accept that what God's Word says about you is true? Why or why not?

4. What do you currently look to as the main "mirror" in your life? What can you do practically to look to the Bible to see your true reflection?

5. Do you ever hesitate to trust the Bible? Why or why not?

6. Talk about the three challenging questions Pastor Jon asked near the end of the message.

How do these questions make you feel?

What is your answer to these questions?

- Will I attack God's Word or live by it?
- Will I deconstruct it or defend it?
- Will I follow the world or the Word?

### **work:**

Continue your commitment to read the Bible throughout the year.

Continue writing down what God teaches you in your personal Bible reading time, Lectio Divina.