

Life Group Discussion Guide
“The Unchanging Word of God”
April 30, 2017

Open with prayer

- If you like to read, what is your favorite book and why?
- What personal or family traditions do you keep?
- How and when were you first introduced to the Bible? What role has it played throughout your life?
- What are your favorite passages of the Bible? What are your least favorite?

Read Matthew 5:17-20

- How would you describe how Jesus fulfills the Law and the Prophets?
- Is it possible or impossible to have the righteousness that Jesus describes in Matthew 5:20? Why?
- How does this passage confront both our temptation toward legalism and toward licentiousness?
- Why is the Bible sometimes controversial?

Jesus tells us three things about The Law & the Prophets – what we call today the Bible, God’s Holy Word, The Word of God, Scripture.

1. The first thing Jesus teaches us is that **He is the fulfillment of all the Law & Prophets.**

Matthew 5:17 - “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

- How is Jesus the fulfillment of all the law and the prophets?

“The Bible does not simply point us to Christ, but it is a testimony from Christ himself. It might be better likened to a letter that carries the seal of Christ. The letter comes alive as we read it in the power of the Spirit so that we hear the living voice of Christ in the very words of the letter.” - Donald Bloesch, “God the Almighty: Power, Wisdom, Holiness, Love”

2. The second thing Jesus reveals to us is **God’s Word is unchanging and eternal.**

Matthew 5:18 -- For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the

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smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

- Why is the Bible unchangeable?
- What are the consequences when we reject God’s Word, either in parts or all of it?

3. The third thing we learn is that **there are consequences to what we do with God’s Word**

Matthew 5:19-20 Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

- What are the results when we live out God’s Word?
- Throughout human history, what has been the relationship between humanity and God’s Word? (Judges 21:25)
- Why do we need God’s Word?

YOUR RESPONSE

- I commit to making God’s Word the authority in every decision of my life.
- I commit to the daily discipline of reading and applying God’s Word.
- I will go deeper in God’s Word by joining a Life Group.