

## Introduction:

### Why Can I Trust the Bible?

1. Because of its \_\_\_\_\_ prophecy

*2500 prophecies in the Bible, 2000 already fulfilled*

2. Because of its \_\_\_\_\_ credibility

*Three Authenticity Tests:*

- *The Biographical Test*
- *The Internal Evidence Test*
- *The External Evidence Test*

3. Because of its \_\_\_\_\_ integrity

*Some Examples:*

- *Law of conservation of mass & energy (2 Pet. 3:7)*
- *Hydrologic cycle (Eccl. 1:7)*
- *Vast number of stars (Jer. 33:22)*
- *Law of increasing entropy (Ps. 102:25-27)*
- *Importance of blood sustaining life (Lev. 17:11)*
- *Atmospheric circulation (Eccl. 1:6)*
- *Gravitational field (Job 26:7)*
- *Spherical shape of the earth (Isa. 40:22)*
- *Nearly infinite extent of the universe (Isa. 55:9)*

4. Because of its \_\_\_\_\_ congruency

*Structurally, the Bible is...*

- *A collection of 66 books*
- *Written by over 40 different authors*
- *From extremely diverse walks of life*
- *Over more than 1500 years*
- *On three different continents*
- *In three different languages*
- *Covering hundreds of controversial topics*
- *Telling a complete, non-contradicting story from start to finish*

## **QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:**

### **Personal Life:**

1. Growing up, what was your experience like interacting with the Bible? Were you taught to trust it? Were you skeptical of it? Did you know little-to-nothing about it? Share your thoughts with the group and why you think they shaped or impacted your attitudes toward the Bible later in life...

### **Ponderings:**

2. What are some things that you love about the Bible and why? What are some things that frustrate or intimidate you about the Bible and why?
3. Of the four points laid out in the weekend message, which is most helpful or enlightening to you personally and why?
4. These four points were by no means an exhaustive list of reasons to trust the Bible. If you are a person who trusts the Old and New Testaments, what are some other reasons this is true of you?
5. If possible, share about a time when the Scripture was a powerful source of direction, assistance or blessing for you. Then, think of a time when the Scripture may have been misused or misunderstood, leading you into pain, confusion or frustration.

### **Promptings:**

6. If you've already chosen to trust the Scripture as the Word of God, how can you begin to further integrate it's truth into your life right now?

If you have not yet chosen to trust the Bible, what are some steps you can take to further investigate it's claims and why would this be important?