

Jeremy White, Lead Pastor Valley Church April 20 & 23, 2023 Week 2 – What? The Bible was Not Written to Us?

Introduction:

Understanding the Bible: Four Critical Truths...

1. The Bible is not a _____, but a _____

Testament means "covenant" The New Covenant begins at the death, not the birth, of Jesus 66 books, 40 authors, 3 languages, 3 continents, 1500 years, ONE story!

2. The Bible was written _____ us, but not ____ us

It tells the story of our need for Jesus We are not under the Law of Moses We are not under a theocratic government

3. Never _____ a Bible _____

Example: Jer. 29:11, 2 Chronicles 7:14, etc. Context, Context, Context!

4. Everything in the BIBLE points to _____

Luke 24:25-27 John 5:39-40

Special Acknowledgment:

Our series "God Said What?" is based on some ideas and concepts from the book *How (Not) to Read the Bible* by Dan Kimble. For deeper study, you can order the book here:



QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

Personal Life:

 In the next few weeks, we will be surveying topics like slavery, sexism, science and the exclusivity of Jesus as Savior. In what way(s) have you wrestled with various topics addressed in Scripture, whether the ones just mentioned or others. Please share...

Ponderings:

- 2. Re-Read Luke 24:25-27 and John 5:39-40 as a group. Why is it so critical for us to read the Bible through the lens of realizing that it all points to Jesus? Discuss...
- 3. If you could change or improve one thing about your relationship to or experience of the Bible, what would it be? Discuss...
- 4. What, if anything, intimidates you about the Bible? Why is this the case for you?
- 5. Point #3 was "Never read a Bible verse." Can you re-state the essential meaning of this point from what you remember in the message?
- 6. Share about a time when your words were taken out of context? Did it create awkwardness? Confusion? Frustration? Something else? Explain...

Promptings:

 It is through the written word that we get to know the Living Word...the Word mad flesh who dwelt among us. How is the Living Word – Jesus Christ – physically manifesting Himself through Your life in this world today? Discuss...