

thoughts, and our actions that we do every day. To be a man of God and be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work, we need to preach the Word. Be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage with great patience and careful instruction. Be a soul winner for the Lord. Let our words and our actions go together. So, what is the purpose of the Word? It is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; so that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. But you have to believe the Bible is the very word of God and you have to

have faith in God and faith that Jesus is the Son of God in order for the Word to have any effect on your life.

John 20:30-31 *30 And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.*

By Bill Davis

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Faithful Sayings

Olsen Park Church of Christ

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Services

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.
10:20 a.m.
6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Elders:

Ken Ford
Charles Kelley
Pat Ledbetter

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Neil Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Fred Perez

Evangelist:

Kyle Pope

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"Purpose of the Word (Bible) Part 1."

The Bible is one of the oldest books that exists today that was written for all mankind to read. The Bible, as we all know, is made up of the very words of God; written by men moved by the Holy Spirit. One may ask, "Why was the Bible written for all mankind? What is its purpose for all of us?" As we all know, not everybody that reads the Bible will take to heart all that it says. Some will read it and reject it out of disbelief and throw it aside. Some will read the Bible and take to heart every word that they read and will let it be a guide to them as they go through life. As a Christian, I may often ask, "What is the real purpose of the Bible, for me, today?" In **2 Timothy 3:16-17** it says, *16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. 17 that the man of God may*

be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. **2 Timothy** has a lot to say regarding the real purpose of the Word (Bible) as to why it is so important to us as Christians, today, and to our children, tomorrow. As we break down these two verses, in the first part we find that "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God." The Bible is not a collection of myths and stories that were handed down from generation to generation. The Bible was not written about human traditions and hollow deceptive philosophies of men. Through the Holy Spirit, God revealed his personal plan to holy men who wrote down all that God revealed to them for us to read today. When God revealed His word to these men, this was known as "Inspiration"; or "God-breathed". These men wrote all that God told them to write. God's words are the authority for us to live by today. **2 Peter 1:20-21** *20 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Spirit.* The Word is a guide for our conduct in life. As we read on, we come across; "and is profitable for doctrine." The word profit means "any advantage or gain; benefit; return, bringing profit or gain, remunerative that is profitable; advantageous." Doctrine means "that which is taught, teachings." Some good examples of this are found in **John 14:15** *15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments"*

Romans 6:17-18 *17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. 18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.* The Word teaches us. One may ask, "What is it teaching?" A good place to start is **John 1:1-14** *1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. 6 John's Witness: The True Light; There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. 9 That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. 14 The Word Becomes Flesh; And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory*

as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

What does the Word teach? In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God, he was with God in the beginning. The Word was the light and the Word became flesh; "Jesus". As we read in **2 Timothy**, it says, "for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." Reproof means "to convict, rebuke or expose." The other purpose of the Word was to reprove men of their living in sin and to instruct them in the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus. **Romans 3:22-26** *22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.*

2 Timothy 3:16 *16 "that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."* How can a man of God

(Christian) be complete and thoroughly equipped for every good work? By studying, listening, and doing. James has a lot to say about listening and doing; in other words, putting God's Words to work in your life. **James 1:21-24** *21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; 24 for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.*

James 2:14-17 *14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? 17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.* You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone. To be men of God, we need to search the Scriptures every day. We need to apply the Word to our very life, our