



**Sermon Series: First and Foremost**

*Part One: Critical and Necessary*

**2 Timothy 3:15-18**

email: [turpindan72@gmail.com](mailto:turpindan72@gmail.com)

Website: [WestCoastChurch.com](http://WestCoastChurch.com)

*Objective Sentence: Everyone should make the Study of God's Word their number one priority because the instructions for receiving eternal life are contained within the pages of the Bible .*

*Introduction: Bob Buchannon:* There's no way around it, the faith of a **follower of Jesus stands or falls** on two things—on the inspiration of Scripture and on the deity of Jesus Christ. If either of these are false—if the Bible is not God's eternal Word, or if Christ is not God's Son—Christianity is false. It is bound to crumble and fall. If these two things are true, however, it will stand forever, regardless of how many skeptics, atheists, or infidels attack it.

**#1. The Bible, God's Word, is Everything** (*Author Unknown: As is your desire, so is your will. As is your will, so is your deed. As is your deed, so is your destiny.*).

**A. Pastor Dan:** *I've come to believe that God's commands are a window into His soul revealing His needs and the work He will do in each person who is willing to walk with Him. We hinder Jesus from empowering us when we say, "I cannot be what God wants me to be, I cannot do what God wants me to do." The commandments do not deal with the actuality of our weakness, but with the potentiality of the strength that is ours though our relationship with God. The power to keep every command is provided by the One who gave us every command to keep.*

**1. It is critical to Salvation**

- a. **2 Timothy 3:15-17 Amplified Bible:** [Timothy] from childhood you have known the sacred writings (Hebrew Scriptures) **which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation** through faith which is in Christ Jesus [surrendering your entire self to Him and having absolute confidence in His wisdom, power and goodness]. <sup>16</sup> **All Scripture is God-breathed [given by divine inspiration]** and is profitable for **instruction, for conviction [of sin], for correction [of error and restoration to obedience], for training in**

**righteousness [learning to live in conformity to God's will, both publicly and privately—behaving honorably with personal integrity and moral courage];**<sup>17</sup> so that the man [and woman] of God may be complete *and* proficient, outfitted *and* thoroughly equipped for every good work.

- b. **Matthew 4:4 NKJV** Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. **Message Bible:** It takes more than bread to stay alive. It takes a steady stream of words from God's mouth.
- c. **Psalms 19:7 Amplified** The Law of the Lord is perfect [flawless] converting [transforming, restoring, refreshing] the soul. **James 1:21 NLT** So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls. **James 1:22 NKJV** But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. (**Romans 1:16**)
- d. **1 Peter 1:23 NKJV** You have been born again not of corruptible seed but of incorruptible seed, through the Word of God that lives and abides forever. (**Hebrews 4:12**)
- e. **2 Peter 1:20-22 Amplified** But understand this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter of or* comes from one's own [personal or special] interpretation,<sup>21</sup> for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.
- f. **Andy Stanley:** We don't drift in good directions. We discipline and prioritize ourselves there.

2. **It is necessary for faith** (**Mark 5:25-29** *a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years,*<sup>26</sup> *and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse.*<sup>27</sup> **When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment.**<sup>28</sup> *For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well."*<sup>29</sup> *Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction).*

- a. **Romans 10:17 NKJV** So then **faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**
- b. **Tommy Barnett:** Faith comes by hearing, and sometimes by hearing, and hearing, and hearing, and hearing, and hearing.
- c. **Hebrews 11:6** Without faith it is impossible to please God, for he or she that comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.
- d. **Colossians 3:16** Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom [*because the more of God's Word we hide in our hearts the more potential for faith and wisdom*] in all teaching and encouraging one another in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs; singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.
- e. **John 15:7** If you abide in Me and **My words abide in you,** you shall ask what you will and it shall be done to you.
- f. **Matthew 14:25-29** ... Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid."<sup>28</sup> And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water."<sup>29</sup> So **Jesus said, "Come."** And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus.
- g. **Tommy Barnett:** We learn to operate in the Word of Faith by hearing what Jesus is speaking to us and doing it. Come!!! Peter received a Word from the Lord that enabled him to do the impossible because he got a word from the Lord.
- h. **John 6:63 NKJV** Jesus said, "The words I speak to you they are **spirit and they are life.**

*Closing and Invitation; Pastor Dan:* One of the big problems among 21<sup>st</sup> century believers is that we attempt to center God around our lives, instead of centering our lives around God. We try adapt our faith to our lifestyle—instead of adapting our lifestyle to our faith.

There are too many in the church today, who excuse themselves from studying God’s Word because it is difficult to understand. After Jesus taught the Parable of the Sower, His disciples came privately and asked, “What does this parable mean?” There were many things they did not understand (Peter in [Matthew 16:21-23](#)).

Jesus said to His disciples ([Luke 8:10](#)), To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God....” It is possible and necessary for us to understand God’s Word and keep His commands. [Luke 24:45](#) says, “Jesus opened their understanding [those who committed their lives to Him and followed Him], that they might comprehend the Scriptures.” Christ’s followers heard and understood God’s Word because they walked with Jesus and developed a personal relationship with Him.