**Introduction to the Bible**

**Session 1: Objective and Purpose**

To establish the authority of the Bible as God’s accurate revelation to man of Himself, His purpose, and His plan for His creation.

Examine 4 parts:

1. Revelation

- What the Lord has done in your life is your greatest argument for your faith

1. Inspiration
2. Compilation
3. Preservation

**We must have confidence in the Bible. This is what we base our life and our eternity on.**

1. **The eternal word** - *Isaiah 40:8 “The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.”*
2. **The life of the word** *- Hebrews 4:12 “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” Jeremiah 15:16*
3. **The integrity of the word** - Hebrews 1:3 “The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.”
4. **The power of the word** - *Isaiah 55:11 “So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”*
5. **Jesus is the living word** *- John 1:14 and John 14:9*

**What is the Word?**

Hebrews 1:1-2

John 14:9

**The way God speaks to us is through His Word**

**How has the word been communicated?**

1. Audibly - through prophets, dreams, visions

 Hebrews 1:1

* He has spoken audibly to individuals (e.g., Adam, Elijah, Paul).
* He has spoken to His prophets who communicate His Word to His people: “Hear the Word of the Lord;” “Thus saith the Lord.”
* He has spoken in dreams and visions.
* He commanded that His Words be written and preserved.
1. Written

 *Isaiah 8:1 "Moreover the Lord said to me, “Take a large scroll, and write on it with a man’s pen concerning Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz.”*

 *Jeremiah 30:2 “Thus speaks the Lord God of Israel, saying: ‘Write in a book for yourself all the words that I have spoken to you.”*

1. Actions

 Psalm 107:20

1. Through Jesus

 *Matthew 17:5 “While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!”*

 *John 1:14 “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.”*

1. Through creation

 *Romans 1:19-20 "For what may be known about God is clear to them since God has shown it to them. The invisible things about Him—His eternal power and deity—have been clearly seen since the creation of the world and are understood by the things that are made, so that they are without excuse.”*

**God’s Word has a purpose**

-Every word God speaks has a purpose; we must discern and determine the purpose

\*Every word is a seed and every seed will reproduce according to its kind

1. Isaiah 55:10-11—Accomplishes His purpose.
2. Psalm 33:8-9—He spoke…it was done.
3. Romans 4:17—Calls those things.
4. Matthew 17:5—Hear Him.
5. John 12:48—God’s Word will judge us in the last day.
6. 2 Corinthians 1:20—All of the promises.