

C.H.U.R.C.H. *It's Who We Are... Under the Authority of Scripture*

Why do you believe what you believe? What are your beliefs based upon?

Some people base their beliefs on what makes them happy... what works... what they were raised to believe... But how long will that suffice?

It's Mother's Day... What's the best gift we can give our moms today?

3 John 1:4 – I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. But what truth? God's truth!

There's actually a gift that moms (& dads) can give their children that can help bring about this kind of Mother's Day gift, both now & in the future...

If you want your children to **"walk in the truth"**, then teach them the truth!

Deuteronomy 6:5-9 - You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Can you imagine what kind of Mother's Day it would be, if moms everywhere lived out Deuteronomy 6, & received the gift of Proverbs 6 in return?

Proverbs 6:20-23 – My son, keep your father's commandment, & forsake not your mother's teaching. Bind them on your heart always; tie them around your neck. When you walk, they will lead you; when you lie down, they will watch over you; and when you awake, they will talk with you. For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life. What an amazing gift that would be!

When what we believe is rooted in God's Word... When what we teach our children is the truth of God's Word... When the transformative power of God's Word is shaping our lives together, then there is hope for our world!

This is why we as a church put so much stock in the Word of God... in our preaching... teaching... & in reading it together! *"Thru the Bible in a Year"*

Can the Bible be trusted? Are there good reasons for putting our trust in it? Is there wisdom in living under its authority? Believing in what it says, and living in response to its every word?

B – The Bible is the book of BEGINNINGS It gives us our origin stories...

Hebrews 11:3 - By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God... (Genesis 1)

Isaiah 46:9-10 - Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose...

I – The Bible is INTERNALLY CONSISTENT

2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, & for training in righteousness....

2 Peter 1:20-21 - No prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

B – The Bible is BEYOND REPROACH

Proverbs 30:5 - Every word of God proves true...

1 Peter 1:25 - But the word of the Lord remains forever. And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

L – The Bible brings LIGHT TO OUR PATH

Psalms 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

John 8:12 - Jesus spoke to them saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

E – The Bible contains the words of ETERNAL LIFE

John 6:68 - Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Romans 5:20-21 - Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. In it the gospel is revealed!

We believe that truth can be known, and that the truth can set us free to live into God's glorious plan for His creation! "Under the authority of Scripture" means that we shape our beliefs, and our living, in accordance with the Bible!

Moms... The Bible is a gift from the Father to you... to base your life upon & to give as a gift to your children as well! It's a gift to receive... give... receive again!

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