**Sola – Scripture alone - I Know it!**

**I love God word - It is God primary method of speaking to mankind**

**For thousands of years it has been perpetually attacked and under fire - attempts to erase, eradicate it and discredit it - have failed!**

**The next few weeks, we are taking a journey though God’s word.**

**The Goal - to help you develop a love and hunger for God’s word and the passion and confidence to read it and apply it.**

**Psalm 119:97: "O, how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day."**

**I pray by the end of this you can say, “Oh how I loves God’s word!”**

**The Primary Themes**

**\*\* To Know the Word is to know Jesus**

**\*\* To love Jesus is to love his Words**

**Psalm 19:9 The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous. 10 They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb. 11 By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.**

**LORD may we know the warnings and rewards of your Word!!**

**\*\*\* Why is this series called Sola? Sola (Latin for alone / only)**

**The Five Solas: 5 Core Truths**

**Sola Scriptura (Scripture alone)** - **Bible alone is our highest authority**

**Sola Fide (Faith alone)** - **Saved through faith alone in Jesus Christ**

**Sola Gratia (Grace alone) - By the grace of God alone**

**Solus Christus (Christ alone)** **Through Jesus Christ alone**

**Soli Deo Gloria (To the glory of God alone)** - **For the glory of God alone.**

**Sola Scriptura Vs. Prima Scriptura: Approaches to the Bible**

**Sola Scriptura – Only Scripture / Scripture Alone**

**(Acts 17:11, 1 Corinthians 4:6, Mark 7:6-9, 2 Timothy 2:15, 2 Tim 4:2) The Bible alone is the source of truth and instruction as properly understood. All practice, customs, traditions, and truth are subject to the Bible.**

**Prima Scriptura – First Scripture / Scripture Above (Acts 15:6-30)**

**Starts with the bible, then are other guides to follow - such as tradition, opinion, experience, practicality, church, relevance, etc.**

**1 Corinthians 4:6 I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another.**

**What is written by the prophets, and the apostles – we must not go beyond.**

**\*\* The Bible alone is the source of truth in life and faith – Sola Scriptura**

**The Bible is complete and authoritative. Only God’s Word is inspired.**

**2 Timothy 3:12 Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, 13 while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.**

**Sacred writings = of the prophets (OT) and the apostles (NT)**

**Let’s take a look at - How the Bible is used by God in our life:**

**2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.**

**For Teaching (Doctrine) –**

**The word of God tells us the truth about God, man, the world, and eternity. (LBT – “to teach us what is true”) Theology matters.**

**For Reproof (Rebuke)**

**Spiritual rebuke – conviction. The Bible exposes false teaching & conduct when properly understood**

**For Correction (to set straight)**

**The bible not only point out areas but also gets us back on tract when we follow it. Restores us straightens us out.**

**Psalm 119:103 How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! 104 I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path.**

**For Training (in righteousness)**

**To know the true grace of Jesus and what is looks like to serve and honor God with our life.**

**God gives us His Word for - Doctrine, Correction, an Instruction – why?**

**2 Tim 3:17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.**

* **Complete –gives us everything we need to know and follow Jesus.**
* **Equipped – outfitted for God’s work and mission for our life.**

**When we read the Bible – it teaches us, corrects us, prepares us, and launches us into the world!**

**But just because you own one – or occasionally skim it – does not mean this will happen… How to truly benefit from the Word of God.**

**Joshua 1:7 “Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. 8 Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night,** **so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”**

**Successful & prosperous in Life - v8 “successful and prosperous” is defined by v9 “Lord your God will be with you” The Lord is the reward, his peace, contentment, joy, confidence!**

**Biblical success is not about having material a possession but having God’s provision.**

1. **Know the Word – v7-9**

**You can’t live in the blessing of the Word of God unless you know it. To know the truth of God’s Word – the truth of grace and faith in Jesus.**

**Know what is says for yourself! \*\* Reading the Bible - video**

1. **Obey the Word – v7 “…be careful to obey all the law”**

**To know something and to do it is a whole other thing.**

**James 1:22 Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.**

**Matt 7:24 - Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. (vs. house built on sand)**

**Luke 6:46 Why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' but not do what I say?**

**Many “know” the Word – but most don’t follow it.**

1. **Keep on track with the Word – v7 “…do not turn to the right or the left”**

**This is about consistency following in it. We don’t try God’s word out.**

**We know it, obey it – and keep on living it even when we don’t see it - or understand how it works = that is FAITH!**

1. **Speak the Word - v8 Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips…**

**The successful don’t just read it – they speak it and they share it!**

**The picture is one who reads it outload to be heard by others.**

**Shares it with others – Your faith is not a private experience.**

1. **Meditate on the Word – v8 …meditate on it day and night…**

**We don’t just speak to others we speak it to our self – it’s on our mind.**

**Think of marinated chicken. Soaking in the seasoning.**

**\*\* The lost art of Biblical meditation – it unlocks the storehouse of faith.**

**Psalm 1:1-2 – Blessed is the one who meditates on God’s Word day and night.**

**How do we meditate on it? First you read it – then you think about it – and think about it – and then later, think about it.**

**Meditation is to intentionally call to mind and to dwell on the works and promises of God. Memorization is part of it.**

**So often we chew on things or call to mind and dwell on things unhealthy, depressing, & worrisome. Replaying thigs over.**

**Psalm 119:** **How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! 104 Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore, I hate every false way.**

**\*\* What is on your lips?**

**Joshua 1:7 Be careful to “obey all of it” / 8 “do everything in it”**

1. **Keep all the Word of God**

**We don’t get to pick and choose what we like or don’t about the Bible.**

**If you are picking what to believe, you are making yourself the final authority – not sola scriptura.**

**2 Timothy 4:2** **I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: 2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. 3 For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, 4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.**

**People will pick and choose what they like – isolate verses – crossing out some verses – rationalizing it away.**

**BUT - Those who learn to read it, know it, love it, live it, do it, walk it, meditate on it, obey it, and do not turn from it will be successful!**

**This is not about following, trusting, or obey words on a page – but following, trusting, and obey the very heart of God given to mankind – the Word of God. This is about trusting the Word of Jesus.**

**The Word of God – became flesh (John 1)**

**\*\* To Know the Word is to know Jesus**

**\*\* To love Jesus is to love his Words**

**The word – God in the flesh – Jesus stepped into our life to live the Word, fulfill the Word, and give his life for salvation.**