

The Connection

Messages of Hope



A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 791

July 10, 2024

“To the Question of ‘What is the Bible?’”

Last Sunday we began our quest to explore 20 questions that every Christian should understand. Please consider what follows as you remember *the four step process of biblical change* that was introduced. Please pray that God would teach us and show us our faults, so that He might correct us and train us unto righteousness. Complete...Equipped...Engaged.

The Bible as God's Word

1. **Inspiration**: This affirms that the Bible is inspired by God Himself. It teaches that the Holy Spirit guided the human authors in such a way that they wrote exactly what God intended without error (2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:21). This divine inspiration extends to every part of Scripture, from historical narratives to moral teachings and theological doctrines.
2. **Authority**: The Bible holds ultimate authority in matters of faith and practice for us. It serves as the standard by which all beliefs and actions are measured (Psalm 119:105, Isaiah 40:8). The authority of Scripture is not dependent on human approval or interpretation but on its divine origin and inherent truth.
3. **Clarity**: Reformed theology teaches the clarity (or perspicuity) of Scripture, meaning that the essential teachings necessary for salvation and Christian living are clear and understandable to ordinary believers under the guidance of the Holy Spirit (Psalm 19:7-8, 2 Timothy 3:15-17).
4. **Sufficiency**: The Bible is considered sufficient for all matters of faith and practice. It contains everything necessary for salvation and living a godly life (Psalm 19:7-11, 2 Timothy 3:15-17). While God continues to work through His Spirit and the Church, Scripture alone is sufficient as the authoritative revelation of His will.
5. **Interpretation**: Reformed theology emphasizes the importance of interpreting Scripture according to its intended meaning, taking into account its historical, cultural, and literary context. This approach seeks to understand Scripture in light of Scripture itself, with the help of the Holy Spirit and in community with the Church (2 Peter 1:20-21).

Application in Reformed Practice

Therefore, the Bible holds a central place in worship, preaching, teaching, and personal devotion. It is read, studied, and applied to guide believers in their understanding of God, His purposes, and His will for their lives. Reformed theologians and pastors prioritize expository preaching—systematically explaining and applying Scripture—to ensure that congregations are grounded in the truth of God’s Word.

Conclusion

For us, the Bible is not merely a collection of religious writings but the living and active Word of God (Hebrews 4:12). It is through Scripture that God reveals Himself, His redemptive plan, and His will for humanity.

As such, studying and adhering to the teachings of Scripture are essential for spiritual growth, doctrinal clarity, and faithful living according to God’s design.

So, “What is the Bible?” - The Bible is the inspired, authoritative, clear, sufficient, and interpretable Word of God, essential for knowing Him and living in accordance with His divine purposes. Thus, the truth of the Scriptures **MUST** be applied to **EVERY** question that will be considered as it should be to **ALL** that we do.

Take time to write out the memory verses here. Don’t forget the address.

Peace in Christ.

Pastor Bruce.

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, July 10

Wednesday Night Study
& Prayer @ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 11

Worship Team Rehearsal @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 14

Worship Team Run Through
@ 8:15 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, July 17

Wednesday Night Study
& Prayer @ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 18

Worship Team Rehearsal @ 7:00 p.m.

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - July 14

Church is Providing

ProPresenter - July 14

Elizabeth Floyd

Soundboard - July 14

Jane Davis

Live Streaming - July 14

Al Floyd

Communion - July 14

Lynn Joyner

Greeter - July 14

Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - July 14

Volunteer Needed

Scripture Text and Sermon This Sunday

Leviticus 19:2

Revelation 1:8

“What is God Like?”

Daily Devotions For This Coming Week

Jul	14	1 Cor	3
Jul	15	1 Cor	4
Jul	16	1 Cor	5
Jul	17	1 Cor	6
Jul	18	1 Cor	7
Jul	19	1 Cor	8
Jul	20	1 Cor	9

Outreach Ministries

“Food of the Month”

for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry

**Canned Meals(Stews, Chili, etc)
Pop-Top Cans, Please.**

We have a collection bin in the foyer

HOPE Meal Ministry

Take a meal from the freezer if
needed for you or someone else.

TLC Devotion

4th Wednesday each Month
@ 11:00 a.m.

5124 Departure Dr # 101, Raleigh

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Women of HOPE

Saturday, July 13 - 1p.m.

Topic: How do you deal with
loneliness? Meeting at:
First Watch - 6320 Capital Blvd,
Suite 130, Raleigh (closes at 2:30)

Wednesday Night Ministries

Summer schedule on Wednesday nights

Study & Prayer

Bible Study @ 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Time @ 7:45 p.m.

Is prayer a passion for you?

HOPE Church Raleigh

has a new ministry.

The **Sunday Prayer Ministry**

If you would like to participate,

please contact Diane Mack

beautybycaris@gmail.com

Prayer Requests:

Alice Kinard, Revill, Ramsey, David, and
the rest of the Mallory Family, Janice
Worthington, Jamie Baldwin, Ron Clifton,
Donna Williams, Carol & Colin (Kathy
Herriman's Sister & Brother-in-law),
Loretta (Sandi Underwood's daughter),
Joan Summers, Shelley, Diane Mack's
Sister-in-law, Jordan & Cinnamon (son
and daughter of Lynn Joyner's family
members), Tommy and Billy Lanphere
(Lynn Joyner's brothers), Gene & Becky
Hale, Ellie Tappan, Dave & Dot Geil,
Carlyle and Cynthia Franklin (Sandra
Pierce's dad and stepmom), our Military,
Police, Fire, and EMS, our Missionaries,
our Nation, and the world.
Please send additional requests to Pastor

HOPE - REBOOT NOW

**Everyday Prayer
For
The Vision Team
The Session
The Congregation**

WOMEN OF HOPE Upcoming Meetings

Saturday, July 27 - 10a.m.
*“Initiating Conversations with
Non-Believers”*
HOPE Church Raleigh

Saturday, August 10 - 10a.m.
*“Are You in a New Season of
Life?”*
NoRa - 12333 Strickland Road
Su 100-102 - Raleigh

Quote of the Week

*“The ‘why’ matters more
than the ‘what’.”*

R. Anderson

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Worship Time: 9:30 AM

www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org
www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh
Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh
YouTube.com (type “HOPE Church Raleigh”
in the search box)

