

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS: SUNDAY SCHOOL KIT

SESSION 6 – UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE

1. What is the clarity of Scripture and why is that an important principle for Christians to remember?
2. How can we keep ourselves from error when interpreting the Bible?
3. How can wrong interpretations affect the mission and message of the church?
4. What would you say to someone who claims Christianity is just a bunch of biased interpretations?

WORTH NOTING

“To me, this verse means...” should not be the first response we give to Bible reading. Scripture should be applied individually but only after the broader meaning of the text is understood (Eph. 5:17). Sometimes we can innocently twist Scripture by reading a passage in isolation, not asking questions of the text or just looking for a quick spiritual pick-me-up. Not every wrong reading of Scripture leads to direct danger but the pattern of surface reading can be damaging over the long-term (Rom. 16:18, 2 Tim. 4:3-4). Understanding the Bible rightly is not effortless but remember that as we read humbly, prayerfully, with a desire to know God and His will, the Holy Spirit will guide us and keep us (Matt. 7:7, Luke 11:13, Luke 13:24, John 16:13, James. 1:5-6).

[additional questions]

+ How can a secular worldview impact how we approach sensitive cultural topics such as homosexuality or the Canaanites?

+ Discuss Deuteronomy 6:4-7. What does this passage show us about God’s revelation?

Other passages to consider: John. 16:12-15, Rom. 16:17-19, 1 Cor. 2:12-13