

SMALL GROUP STUDY #1 FOR “WORD” SERIES

THE CLAIMS THE BIBLE MAKES ABOUT ITSELF

Never has there been a book that makes claims about itself. Unparalleled audacity! I want to examine some of these claims together: We will just look at 4.

A. The Bible is from God: The historical document that you hold in your hand is from God, written by God to mankind—all mankind.

John 1:1-4 ESV In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

1. What does this verse say in your own words? Would you treat the Word of God differently if God had handed it to you personally? What about if it wasn't for you at all?

B. The Bible is the Word of God. The historical document that you hold in your hand is the words of God spoken to man.

2 Tim 3:16 ESV All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

1. Which of these four purposes of the Bible is what you seem to need the most in your life right now and why?

C. The Bible is the authority deciding what we should believe and do. The historical document that you hold in your hand claims authority over every created thing.

Matthew 4:4 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’

Yes, the Bible is so much more than a historical document, can you describe how much more in your own words? Go on, give it a try – it is beneficial to speak out loud what you believe.

D. You need the Bible to live a Godly life. The historical document that you hold in your hand claims that in it you will find direction to live a full, vibrant and satisfying life.

2 Peter 1:2-4 Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. 3 His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature.

How close are you to that full and satisfied life? Would you, with your care group ask the Lord through this series, to take you closer to that place of rest? Would you commit to taking a journey and walking together with some friends in your understanding of the power found in the Bible?