



LIFE GROUP STUDY

LIVING BY GOD'S WORD

1 Peter 1:22-2:3

www.muncherian.com/ss-living.html

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
2. Where and when did you first become aware of God's word? Where and when were you first taught from the Bible?
3. How have you studied the Bible? What resources have you used? What opportunities have you taken advantage of?
4. Share one change you have made in your life based on what you have learned from the Bible.
5. Is there a verse or passage from the Bible that is most significant for you. Which is it and why?
6. How would you answer someone who asked you, "*Why do you believe the Bible is God's word?*"

The Evangelical Free Church of America Statement of Faith, Article Two (and Creekside's statement of faith) states this: ¹

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises. ²

7. Thinking about the uniqueness of God's word, what do the following verses tell us about God's word: Numbers 23:19; Psalm 119:160; Matthew 5:18; John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16? ³
8. What authority should we give God's word over our lives? Why? Consider 2 Timothy 3:16,17; Hebrews 10:23; James 1:22-25.

9. How is your longing for God's word? What are you doing to actively implant and nurture the seed of God's imperishable word in your heart? How would you respond to some of the questions asked in Sunday's sermon?
- Do you have a regular personal devotional time for reading God's word? Daily?
 - Have you read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation? More than once?
 - What is your program for personally studying God's word?
10. Our longing for "pure spiritual milk" (2:2) is based on a prior rejection (putting away) of malice, deceit, hypocrisy, etc. (2:1). How does turning from these relationship destroying attitudes create a hunger for God's word? How does our hunger for God's word change our relationships?
11. When it comes to relationships with others, it's easy to become a hearer of the word rather than a doer (James 2:22-24). Honestly, take time to set out specific actions that you will take to submit yourself intentionally to God's word.
12. Concerning your longing for spiritual maturity, how would you answer this question: *"If someone were to follow you around for a week and post a video of your life on YouTube what would people conclude about your desire to mature as a Christian?"*

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1. The complete EFCA Statement of Faith can be found at: www.muncherian.com/EFCAStatementofFaith2008.pdf
2. Below is a brief background study regarding some key points in the EFCA Statement of Faith, Article Two:
- Regarding Revelation: God, through self-disclosure has made known to us His divine person and truth. The purpose of God's self-disclosure is to call humankind into fellowship with Himself (John 17:3; 1 John 5:20). Scripture describes two distinct forms of God's self-disclosure; General Revelation (Article One) and Special Revelation. Through Special Revelation God has revealed to mankind all that we need to know for salvation. Special Revelation is divine self-disclosure through Jesus Christ the Living Word and through Scripture, the written word of the Old and New Testaments (Psalm 19:7-20; John 1:1-18; 3:16; 2 Timothy 3:15,16).
- Regarding Inspiration, Inerrancy, and Infallibility: The writing of Scripture resulted from a cooperative activity between God and human authors. God exerted enough influence in them, yet without controlling them completely, so as to guarantee that every word in the entirety of the original manuscripts, not later copies or translations, as they were written rendered the thoughts of God free from error in what they affirm and teach (verbal plenary inspiration) (2 Timothy 3:15,16; 2 Peter 1:19-21). God, who is truth (Numbers 23:19; Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18), in Scripture reveals what is truth (Psalms 19:9; 119:160; Galatians 2:5; Ephesians 4:20-24; 2 Timothy 2:15). Scripture is inerrant in that it is without error, totally reliable, and the sufficient infallible authority in all matters pertaining to faith and conduct. As such, it demands our full obedience and trust (John 3:33; Romans 3:4; 1 Corinthians 2:12,13; 2 Timothy 3:17; James 1:22-25).
3. More information on the uniqueness and message of God's word can be found online:
- A Short Study of the History and Message of the Bible: www.muncherian.com/BibleHistoryandMessage.pdf
Doctrine of the Scriptures in 1 & 2 Peter: www.muncherian.com/DoctrineofScripture12Peter.pdf