

The God of the Living
Matthew 22:23-33

Review:

1. Jesus calls those who focus only on the things of this world to look to the greater, eternal reality of God
2. Jesus upholds the absolute authority of the Word of God, using it to prove the reality of the resurrection
3. We must submit every part of our lives to God, obeying His Word and worshipping Him alone

Reflect:

1. Does the way Jesus uses Scripture to answer His critics change the way you think about the Bible? Describe the authority the Scriptures have in your life.
2. What parts of God's Word do you have the hardest time putting into practice?

Go further: Read II Peter 1:16-21

1. What does Peter say he has made known to his readers?
2. To what does Peter claim to be an eyewitness?
3. In verse 17, what does Peter say he heard the Father saying about Jesus?
4. When did Peter say he heard this?
5. What image does Peter use in verse 19 to describe the way Scripture leads us and guides us?
6. Peter says we will need to read the Scriptures until the day dawns. What do you think he means by this?
7. What does Peter insist is never a matter of individual interpretation?
8. What does Peter deny that human beings could produce by their own will?
9. How does Peter say that prophets were able to speak God's Word to us?

Read II Timothy 3:14-4:5

10. In 3:14-15, how does Paul counsel Timothy to avoid deception?
11. In verse 16, the word "inspired" means "breathed out." Since Scripture is breathed out by God, in what four ways does Paul say it is profitable for us?
12. What does Paul say in verse 17 is the result of studying the Scriptures?
13. What does Paul counsel Timothy to do in 4:2 and 5?
14. Why does Paul say in 4:3 and 4 that Timothy's actions will be necessary?

Summary and Application:

1. Describe your practice of reading Scripture – how often and how much do you read every day?
2. Given the way Jesus used Scripture, and given what Peter and Paul say about Scripture, how do you plan to change your reading habits?
3. What favorite Scriptures would you like to memorize? Make a plan to do this.