

Theme: The impact of godly training, godly models and the unchanging power and trustworthiness of God's Word all serve to encourage us to *continue* in the way of salvation, the way of life.

Background: The world (and sometimes the church) works hard to pull the believer away from the truth driving us to be lovers of self, not God. How are we to avoid such falling away?

READ: 2 Timothy 3:10-17

Introduction: Christians are people of *The Word*

I. Continue In What You Have Believed

- A. Knowledge of the Truth
  - 1. From childhood
  - 2. Into maturity
- B. The Word you were taught
  - 1. From childhood
  - 2. The way and hope of salvation
- C. A priceless blessing
  - 1. A testimony of grace of God
  - 2. Be *thankful!*

II. Continue In The Word You Have Received

- A. The nature of the Word of God
  - 1. Regarding
    - a. Process: 2 Peter 2:20-21
      - 1.) Spirit-moved writers produced God-breathed writings!
      - 2.) Writers were "moved" or "carried along" (Acts 27:15)
      - 3.) The work of the Spirit in them doesn't change the character of the men
    - b. Product: 2 Timothy 3:16
      - 1.) "All or "every" includes:
        - aa) The Old Testament
        - bb) The "writings" of the New Testament (Peter, 2 Peter 3:16; Paul, Ephesians 3:4,5; John, Revelation 22:9, 18; Hebrews 1:1)
      - 2.) "Scripture" writings - All the things *written*
      - 3.) "God-breathed" / "breathed out"  
Example: With your own speech words formed in your mind and brought into existence by the breath of your mouth. You truly breathe out your words.
  - 2. Regarding *interpretation*: it includes
    - a. The *words* themselves - The importance of studying the languages of scripture
    - b. What is taught - Principles and promises
    - c. What it touches
      - 1.) Miracles, Virgin birth, Resurrection, predictive prophecy, creation, recreation, sin and salvation, law and grace
      - 2.) The nature of mankind, the nature of God, the person of Christ
- B. The purpose/power of the Word of God: That is, for what is it useful??
  - 1. Equipped through...
    - a. Teaching & reproof - Both having to do with *doctrine* – what we are to believe
      - 1.) Teaching the whole counsel of God - Every part is profitable (if not easy to understand)
      - 2.) Reproof - It will correct poor doctrine, beliefs, thinking

- b. Correction & training in righteousness
  - 1.) Directing our conduct!
  - 2.) Correct – from "straight" (Psalm 119:121)
  - 3.) Leading us paths of righteousness (Psalm 23)
- 2. Equipped for...
  - a. Competent/complete = complete, capable, proficient, adequate (This is the adjective)
  - b. Equipped = furnished, completed (This is the verb (participle))
  - c. Every good work! - Competency in good works!

NOTE: We study/preach through whole books of the Bible "all Scripture is God-breathed and profitable" to teach, correct, set us straight, lead us in paths of righteousness that bring an eternal reward of life and peace. If there are hard things to understand, we know that there are hard things in life that don't come with easy answers.

QUESTION: Do you read "*All scripture is breathed out by God*" or "most is useful?"

### III. Continue In The Faith

- A. Remember
  - 1. The Word you have been taught
  - 2. The examples you have been given
- B. Get intimately acquainted with the Word
  - 1. You will fight the tempter (Matthew 4:4)
  - 2. You will find the words of life (Psalm 119)
  - 3. Hold onto that
- C. Receive it like a child – believing and trusting!