

Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2019 9:57 AM
Subject: Kickoff of MOB Study of Matthew

On Tuesday nite, sixty-eight MOBsters gathered together to kick off our study of Matthew! And the question was asked: why were we there? Why would men in the busy Washington area get together on a Tuesday nite to fellowship and pray (and eat!), but mainly to learn and share what they learning from the Bible?

The answer is obvious! They've come to realize that the Bible is God's inspired Word! God is the Author and He's chosen the sacred Scriptures as His primary way of revealing Himself and communicating His "truths" to all mankind! It addresses the most basic and important questions of life, including how we got here, why we're here, and where we're going! Its message has changed--and is continuing to change--our lives! It's actually like a manual for living! Dr. Constable describes the Bible as "basic information before leaving earth" (B-I-B-L-E)! And it's all beginning to make more sense now that we've believed and are leaning to trust Him by 'faith'!

2 Timothy 3:16-17 says: "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching (teaching us what to believe), for reproof, for correction, for training us in righteousness, so that the man of God (that would include MOBsters) may be adequate and equipped (fully equipped!) for every good work!"

The Apostle Paul wrote, in Romans 10:17, "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ." Peter put it this way (in 1 Peter 1:23): "for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God."

Jesus Himself said, in Matthew 4:4, "It is written (referring to Deuteronomy 8:3) that man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God"! And isn't it interesting that Jesus, in the garden, just prior to heading to the cross, prayed to the Father (in what is called His "intercessory prayer") that His followers (and that would include MOBsters!) "would be sanctified by the truth," noting that "Your word is truth"!

And while you'd think, as MOBsters, that we'd be naturally inclined to want to study the Word anyway, we're actually commanded to do it! 2 Timothy 2:15 says we're to "study (the Bible) to show ourselves approved unto God, a workman who doesn't need to be ashamed, rightly dividing (correctly interpreting) the Word of Truth!"

Check out all the truths and promises of Psalm 119, including how God's Word is a "lamp to our feet and a light to our path;" how it's "forever settled in heaven;" and how when it's "hid in our hearts, it "keeps us from sin"--and so much more!

Gil Rogers, on Tuesday nite, reminded us of one of his favorites: Hebrews 4:12--"For the Word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart!" (Only he may have used another version!)

Well, enough? You all get the point! We gather to share the Word! And next week, we're going to share together an overview of Matthew! And so, we're asking you all to read through the book of Matthew at one sitting if possible! And as you do, do a little underling and highlighting and note some verses and themes that jump out at you, and challenge or inspire you most--and come next Tuesday to share a little about how God has spoken to you and blessed you through His Word!

Until then, may God go with you and make you a blessing! So glad you're all part of the MOB!

Lowell