

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

STUMPED

FAITH QUESTIONS YOU STRUGGLE TO ANSWER

WEEK 2: AUG 27-SEPT 2

Opening Prayer: Loving God, we are all coming to this time with different experiences and understandings of what the Bible is and how it relates to our lives. Help us grow from our conversation- give us the courage to ask questions and to be open to who you are and how you might be at work in our lives. Amen.

TITLE: DO WE NEED THE BIBLE ?

SCRIPTURE: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 Every scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing mistakes, for correcting, and for training character, 17 so that the person who belongs to God can be equipped to do everything that is good.

GETTING STARTED

- Welcome each other.
- Inquire as to anyone who is missing. Is follow-up needed?
- What feelings and people do you associate with "home"?



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SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Everyone has to start somewhere when it comes to reading the Bible- maybe in Sunday School as a child or through a friend who introduced you to it as an adult. Share about your earliest encounters with the Bible, and if the way you interact with Scripture has changed since then.
- We all have different ways of relating to Scripture. What role does the Bible play in your faith life? Is it a regular part of your practice or one that you engage with less frequently?
- There tend to be strong opposing views on what the Bible is- many believe it is a literal document, with every word being true, while many others believe that it is a book of outdated fairy tales. How would you describe your own views of the Bible?
- Re-read this week's Scripture. This passage in 2 Timothy claims that ALL Scripture is useful. And yet we know that some of the Bible is difficult to understand or can even cause us to ask hard questions about God and how God works. What do you do when you encounter these kinds of passages and how do you find meaning in them?
- This passage goes on to say that the Bible is "God inspired". What does that phrase mean to you?
- The final part of the Scripture that we examined this week was the phrase "so that". What impact should the Bible have on our lives? What does it mean for the Bible to be a reliable guide in your life?

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY- "I LOVE MY CITY"

Is your small group looking for a way to GIVE BACK this fall? I Love My City is just for you! St. Luker's from the North campus, Midtown and online communities will work together on September 23 and 24 to serve in our communities and make a difference. We have projects on-site and at various locations around our city. We'll be serving inside and outdoors. We'll bundle diapers, help at local food pantries, beautify our neighborhoods and schools and much more. Whether you are 3 or 93, we need your small group to join alongside hundreds of St. Luker's for this Day of Service to our communities.

Check out the service project ideas, order a T-shirt, and roll up your sleeves. This day is going to make an IMPACT! Visit stlukesumc.com/ilovemycity.

PRAYER REQUESTS