



**The Bible**

**SUNDAY, September 18, 2022**

**Key Scripture: Luke 1:1-4**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Today we begin our new series, "What the Bible Says," where we're going to be talking about what the Bible has to say about a number of things. We thought it best to start with the discussion of what the Bible says about the Bible. Why would we believe it? Why would a group of reasonably intelligent people place their faith in, base their religious beliefs on, live their life according to..."THE BIBLE?" Pastor Neal pointed out that we don't believe in Jesus because of the Bible. Rather, we believe in the Bible because of Jesus...specifically the RESURRECTION of Jesus! We looked at the gospels and how there were many accounts of Jesus' life and ministry. Most importantly, we realized that the Bible is for transformation, not just information.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Think back to Sunday's message. What do you remember? Review your notes if you have them.
2. What is your experience with the Bible? How were you introduced to the Bible?
3. If someone were to ask you why you believe the Bible, what would have been your answer prior to this Sunday's message? And now?
4. Read Luke 1:1-4. How did we get the Bible?
5. Why did 'so many' want to write about the account?
6. What reason does Luke give in verse 4 for why he wrote about the accurate account?
7. Read John 20:30-31. John mentions 'other miraculous signs' but doesn't document them all. Why? What does that say about Jesus?
8. What is the difference between information and transformation? What dangers exist in confusing the two?
9. What's one thing you learned from Sunday's message and today's discussion that will help you become a better disciple of Christ, and help others do the same?

## **Now What?**

Read it, digest it, live it.



## NOTES

*Information* about the Bible:

There are 66 books by 40 authors over a period of 2,000 years.

The Bible was written in three languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek; and on three continents: Africa, Asia, and Europe.

There was a large gap between the writing of the Old and New Testaments—about 400 years before the New Testament writings took place after the completion of the Old Testament. These years are known as the “silent years.”

*Transformation* versus information: In John 20:31, the word believe in Greek is *pisteuo*. The meaning of this word has to do with trust or allegiance—which implies knowledge *and* action. The respected Greek lexicon author W.E. Vine defines belief as consisting of (1) a firm conviction which produces full acknowledgment of God's revelation of Truth (2) a personal surrender to the Truth and (3) a conduct inspired by and consistent with that surrender.

### Digging Deeper

Bird, Michael F. [\*Seven Things I Wish Christians Knew About the Bible\*](#) Zondervan Reflective, 2021.

<https://www.zondervan.com/9780310538851/seven-things-i-wish-christians-knew-about-the-bible/>

Fee, Gordon D., & Douglas Stuart. [\*How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth\*](#). 4th ed., Zondervan, 2014.

<https://zondervanacademic.com/products/how-to-read-the-bible-for-all-its-worth-4th>

The Bible Project—[What is the Bible?](https://youtu.be/ak06MSETeo4) <https://youtu.be/ak06MSETeo4>