

NOTES >>

SERMON SERIES STUDY GUIDE

NORTH: Oct. 18/22 | SOUTH: Oct. 25/29 | CHAPEL: Nov. 5



SCRIPTURE ALONE

Pastor Mike Toomey



This study guide was written by the Pastors at Hope Lutheran Church in Fargo, ND. Find this resource and others at [FARGOHOPE.ORG/RESOURCES](https://fargo-hope.org/resources)

SCRIPTURE ALONE

READ: John 20:30-31; 2 Timothy 3:14-17

The Bible - 66 books in one big book. These 66 books cover thousands of years of human history and interaction with God. These interactions are recorded by many different authors, written in prose, narrative, poetry, genealogy and prophecy. Reading the Bible can seem a daunting and intimidating task and yet, it's one that every follower of Jesus Christ needs to take up. The Bible is more than just words on a page. The Bible is God's love letter to us. It's a slowly unfolding story of a creator's love for his creation and the length to which that loving creator will go to save all of creation when sin and death would seek to destroy it.

At the heart of this story is Jesus. He is the greatest revelation of who God is and what he is all about to the world. All of scripture bends and points us to Jesus, even in its darkest pages. If we truly want to know God and who we are, we need to know Jesus. To know who Jesus is, we must open our Bible and read about his life, death and resurrection. But the Bible isn't just recorded history about Jesus. It is the living Word of God. When we open our Bible, we do not read it alone. God's Spirit is with us and is speaking to us. As we all know, any good relationship is built on good communication! When we read our Bible, we are encouraged by God in faith (John 20:30-31) and in life (2 Timothy 3:14-17) which is good for our relationship with him and for our soul.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What are some of your favorite things to read and why?
2. What are some obstacles people may have towards reading the Bible? (i.e. illiteracy, access to Bible, time, etc.)

3. What are some motivating factors for reading the Bible?
4. According to John 20:30-31, why did people record what they did in the Bible and why is it important?
5. According to 2 Timothy 3:14-17, how is reading scripture useful for our lives?
6. How often do you find yourself reading scripture? How often do you think God would desire you to read his Word?
7. What are some ways you can keep yourself accountable to being in good communication with God through reading his Word?

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for not being silent, but for speaking to me clearly and continually through your Holy Scriptures. Help me as I read those things that are confusing and hard to understand in scripture and help me draw comfort and strength from those places that speak clearly to me. Encourage me, correct me, teach me and guide me through your Word and above all, Lord, help me to grow closer to you through the reading of your Word. Amen.