

For you have been born again, not of perishable seed,  
but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.  
(1 Peter 1:23, NIV)

1) T/F: The word “Bible” comes from the same Greek word as “barbell,” thus in the first century the Bible was called “The Bible” because it was such a heavy document.

2) T/F: The Bible you have is the same Bible as was used in the first century. Acts 17:11; 1Thess 2:13; 2Thess 2:15

*The authority of the Apostles came from the \_\_\_\_\_.*

3) T/F: Archeological discoveries have recovered some of the actual original manuscripts that were hand-written by Bible authors. 2Pet 1:21; Matt 6:13 (KJV vs. NIV)

*Key concepts of how the Bible has broken through:*

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

*The Bible was composed through \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ means.*

4) T/F: The authors of the bible sat down and wrote each book in its entirety in one sitting. Deut 34:5-12; 1Pet 5:12

*The Bible was composed by a variety of authors over about a \_\_\_\_\_-year time span.*

*The New Testament was written by a variety of authors over about a \_\_\_\_\_-year time span.*

*In all of antiquity, the Bible has no rival in how it was \_\_\_\_\_.*

*In all of antiquity, the Bible has no rival in the \_\_\_\_\_ of copies available. There are \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_!*

Canonical Criteria:

1. Apostolic origin
2. Universal acceptance
3. Consistent with the teachings of Jesus

Ongoing discoveries of texts:  
1896 The Gospel of Mary is discovered.  
1945 The Gnostic Gospels are found in Egypt  
1946 The Dead Sea Scrolls are discovered  
1970s The Book of Judas surfaces.

5) T/F: The Bible tells the story of how God is breaking through into human history with far more than written words. Ex 17:14; Matt 1:21; Luke 19:10; Ro 7:24-25

TALK IT OVER

Talking through the message during the week can really help clarify the things that God is teaching you and let others learn from your experiences. Get with someone this week and talk about your answers to the following questions:

What idea from the message helped you the most?

Was anything in the message challenging for you?

What is your response to how God has used human and divine means in writing, copying, consolidating, and using the Bible in breaking through human history?

How has God used the Bible to break through to you?

What questions do you have about the Bible?

Spend some time reflecting on the life group mission statement: “Having people to be a people for the sake of other people.”

Resources for further study:

- How We Got The Bible. John Sailhamer.
- It Is Written: <https://bridgetown.church/series/it-is-written/>
- The Bible In The Making: <https://www.doorofhopepdx.org/sermons/first-fridays/>

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*The authority of the Apostles came from the RESURRECTION.*

3) T/F: Archeological discoveries have recovered some of the actual original manuscripts that were hand-written by Bible authors. 2Pet 1:21; Matt 6:13 (KJV vs. NIV)

*Key concepts of how the Bible has broken through:  
COMPOSITION – COPIES – CANON - CONSOLIDATION*

*The Bible was composed through  
HUMAN and DIVINE means.*

4) T/F: The authors of the bible sat down and wrote each book in its entirety in one sitting. Deut 34:5-12; 1Pet 5:12

*The Bible was composed by a variety of authors over about a 1500-year time span.*

*The New Testament was written by a variety of authors over about a 100-year time span.*

*In all of antiquity, the Bible has no rival in how it was  
METICULOUSLY COPIED.*

*In all of antiquity, the Bible has no rival in the NUMBER of  
copies available. There are TENS of THOUSANDS!*

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