

Gunston Bible Church  
Pastor David Bennett  
Key Verse Psalms 119:105  
28 April 2019

## “Got Guidance”

Good morning Gunston Bible Church thank you for celebrating with us this morning turn to the person next to you and tell them pay attention...

We are continuing with our series “What you Got” last week we dealt with the issue of Got the way the truth and the life, today we are going to discuss the topic of “Got Guidance”

Specifically “**Where to Get Guidance from?**”

For time sake let’s get into the Word of God and more importantly let’s get the Word of God into you!

**Psalm 119:105**, *“Your **Word** is a lamp unto my feet, and a **light** unto my path.”*

It is amazing to see the many things people try in order to figure out their future. It's natural to want guidance, but if we base our decisions on incorrect information we are asking for trouble!

Every state has their own “**Rules of the Road**” handbook published by the DMV.

What’s the purpose of those rules? They give rules to follow for every driver: stop, go, yield the right of way, rules for passing, merging, speed limits, turn signals, etc.

This doesn’t mean that every driver is going to abide by those rules, but if they are smart, they will.

Following these rules will help to keep them from having accidents or from getting traffic tickets.

**LIKEWISE**, God's Word is given to us as a sort of "Rules of the Road" for living the Christian life; it is called the "**Word of God**", the Bible.

Not everyone abides by those rules, but if they are smart they will. They may not get a ticket from God if they break the rules, but they will miss out on Blessings he has set aside for us!

**Matthew 7:24-27**, *"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."*

It sounds like we all need to follow God's rules of the roads. If not, there could be a big crash in our lives.

The first thing we are going to touch on this morning is where we should **NOT** get our guidance from?

## 1. **Unreliable Source**

### **Circumstances**

Max Lacado wrote about a man named Robert Reed who said, "I have everything I need for Joy." His hands were twisted and his feet were useless. He cannot bathe himself; he cannot even feed himself or brush his own teeth, or comb his hair.

He has strips of **Velcro** on shirts to hold them together. His speech drags like a worn out audiocassette.

In case you were wondering, Robert has Cerebral Palsy.

The disease keeps him from **driving a car**, riding a **bike**, and going for a **walk**. However, it didn't keep him from graduating from High School or attending Abilene Christian University where he graduated with a degree in Latin.

Having Cerebral Palsy didn't keep him from teaching at St. Louis Junior College or from venturing overseas on five **mission trips**.

Robert's disease didn't prevent him from becoming a missionary in Portugal.

He moved to Lisbon, alone in 1972, there he rented a hotel room and began studying Portuguese.

He found a restaurant owner who would feed him after the rush hour and a tutor who would instruct him in language.

He then stationed himself in the park, where he distributed **tracts** about Christ. Within six years he had led seventy people to the Lord, one of which became his wife Rosa.

Max Lacado heard him speak, and watched as men carried his wheelchair to the stage and they laid his worn **Bible** on his lap.

He watched his stiff fingers force the pages open, as the people in the audience wiped away tears of admiration from their faces.

Robert could have asked for sympathy, or pity, but he did just the opposite. He held up his hand in the air and boasted, "I have **everything** I need for Joy."

His shirts are held together by **Velcro**, but his life is held together by Joy. When asked how could this be?

He replied, “Because he knows the Lord through his Word!”

## Worldly Counsel

The Bible defines worldliness by centering morality where we intuitively know it should be.

Worldliness is the...

- ✓ Lust of the **Flesh** (A passion for sensual satisfaction)
- ✓ Lust of the **Eye** (An inordinate desire for the finer things in life)
- ✓ Pride of **Life** (Self-Satisfaction in who we are, what we have, and what we have done)

Worldliness then, is a preoccupation with false affluence; it elevates creature comfort to the point of Idolatry.

Worldliness is simply, **Pride** and **Selfishness** in **Disguise**; it is harboring **grudges**, nursing **grievances**, and wallowing in **self-pity**.

The counsel of rebellion against God may be very gradual, but it increases in rapidity as you progress in it. If you begin to descend down its slippery sloop, it will take you faster and faster toward your destruction.

Christians should always be on the lookout against the beginning of Worldly Conformity.

**Psalm 1:1**, *“How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers!”*

**Romans 12:2**, <sup>2</sup> *“And do not be **conformed** to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”*

When we trust in our natural capabilities and strengths to deliver us, we place our confidence in and get our allegiance to ourselves instead of God, in doing this our hearts depart from him.

The world's smiles are more **dangerous** than its frowns!

Ok now let's look at where we should get our guidance from...

## 2. **Reliable Source**

A scuba diver told how he had been in water so deep and dark that it is almost impossible to keep from becoming disoriented, and that was a frightening feeling.

To be under water and unable to see your hands right in front of your face, and more importantly not being able to know which way is up, when you find moments like that the panic engulfs you.

When the diver was asked what do you typically do in times like this he stated that you feel for the bubbles.

When its pitch black and you have no idea which way is up or which way you should go you reach up with your hand and feel for the bubbles, because the bubbles always drift up to the surface.

When you can rust your feelings or judgement you can always trust and follow the bubbles to get you back to the surface.

Sometimes in life we get disoriented and desperate at other times we find ourselves drifting aimlessly and know we would need advice and instructions on how to live.

In the 66 books of the **Bible** we have a reality library filled with stories, letters, guidance and examples from God to tell us what is true and real and it shows us the way to go in order to get to heaven, just like the bubbles lead us to the surface, the **Bible** will lead you to Christ who will take you to heaven.

**Proverbs 3:5-6**, “<sup>5</sup> *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. <sup>6</sup> In all your ways acknowledge Him; And He will make your paths straight.*”

THE **BIBLE** is valuable because it is the...

- ✓ **LIVING,**
- ✓ **ETERNAL**
- ✓ **WORD OF GOD!**

And no other book can be compared to it.

God did not create us and then simply **leave us here** on Earth to wonder aimlessly through life. He gave us a guide a **Book of Instructions** on Life. A book that has all of life’s answers as well as all the problems you will ever face.

Let’s look at some interesting information about the Word of God...

- ✓ **NO** written work has ever been interpreted and translated as many times as the Bible.
- ✓ Thousands of manuscripts and documents have contributed to the development of the Bible as we know it.

The Bible contains

3,536,489 letters,  
773,693 words,  
31,173 verses,  
1,189 chapters  
66 books.

- ✓ The 27 books of the New Testament were written for the most part by people who witnessed the Life of Jesus, his teachings, his miracles, his death and resurrection.

- ✓ These Biblical manuscripts were verified by a large group of religious scholar who agreed on the authenticity, authorship, and interpretation of the various works.
- ✓ It should be noted that the New Testament writers accepted the Old Testament books as the authentic Word of God, and Jesus often referred to the Old Testaments writings as God's Word!
- ✓ There are a great number of Cross references in the Bible that lend to its reliability
- ✓ Further, there is agreement between the Old Testament and the New Testament
- ✓ The most compelling evidence for the validity of the Bible is the accuracy of its prophecies
- ✓ We could spend weeks if not months or years going over all the Old Testament prophecies concerning the Birth, Life, Suffering and Death of the Messiah
- ✓ It has withstood its enemies, where the enemy has tried to burn it out of existence, believers have given their very life to preserve it, and its pages are stained with the blood of martyrs.
- ✓ It has withstood because God is in it and with it.

The Bible is printed in around 2,500 languages and dialects. It is produced in a new dialect at the rate of 1 every 6 weeks.

More than 1 million copies annually are sold every year.

Someone has said thought the Bible is the best-selling book of all time, it is also the lease read book of all time.

Too many of us are willing to let our faith rest upon preacher's and teacher's words and not upon our own investigation.

- ✓ The Holy Bible has been given to us by God to **learn** about him
- ✓ The Bible provides guidelines on how we should **conduct** our lives
- ✓ By studying the Bible, we can begin to **understand** who God is and what he expects of us
- ✓ God's word is his principle source of **communication** his word is truth
- ✓ God's word provides the **revelation** of his great mystery of Salvation, obtained through the atoning sacrifice of Christ

We go to church to hear the **Word of God** and to **worship** him, our hymns of **praise** and our thanks **offerings** are the means by which we communicate our appreciation for all that he has done for us, to neglect going to church and studying God's Word is to rob him of the glory, praise and adoration **he deserves**.

**Luke 11:28**, says, "... *Blessed are they that hear the word of God, and observe it.*"

The last thing we will get into this morning is...

### 3. Word of God is...

**2 Timothy 3:16-17**, "*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*"

If scripture is from **God** as we believe it is then it must...

- ✓ Be Read,
- ✓ Listened to,
- ✓ Learned from,
- ✓ **BE Obeyed.**



The obedience is the hard part, but we have to understand that there is another life beyond this life which is eternal, and God is trying to tell us in His Word what to do and how to get there. And it's a matter of us

- ✓ Listening,
- ✓ Learning,
- ✓ Living by faith, and
- ✓ Learning to **Obey** God's Word.

**James 1:22**, *“Be ye doers of the Word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.”*

The Bible is the written word.

Together, they're the **foundation**, and contained within them are the valuable treasures that open the door to...

- ✓ **Forgiveness** from sin,
- ✓ **Rules** to live by,
- ✓ **Pattern** for the abundant life,
- ✓ And the **Pathway** to Eternity with Jesus Christ.

The Word of God is....

Word of God is a **LIGHT**

**Psalms 119:130**, *“The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.”*

**John 1:4**, *“In him was life; and the life was the light of men.”*

Word of God provides **DIRECTION**

**Psalms 119:105**, *“Your Word is a Lamp to my feet and a light for my path.”*

What source of Light is shining on your path today?

Word of God **Stands Forever**

**Matthew 24:35**, *“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”*

**1 Pet 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...”*

### Word of God IMPARTS life

**Rom 1:16**, *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”*

### Word of God PURIFIES us

**1 Pet 1:22**, *“Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart.”*

### Word of God is TRUTH

**John 17:17**, *“Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.”*

**John 8:32**, *“And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”*

### Word of God helps us GROW

**1 Peter 2:2**, *“As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that ye may grow by it.”*

### Word of God is POWERFUL

**Hebrews 4:12**, *“For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and 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.”*

**Romans 1:16**, *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth.”*

**Word of God is something to live by**

**Luke 4:4**, *“... It is written, that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.”*

**Colossians 3:16**, *“Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”*

“Dwell” means to live in or be at home, scripture should permeate every aspect of the believers life and control every thought, word and deed.

**Let us Pray...**