HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

EXPLORE GOD TEACHING GUIDE

WEEK 2

MAIN SCRIPTURE:
2 Timothy 3:16-17

MAIN POINT:
We can trust the Bible is the most legit source of truth ever.

JESUS CONNECTION:
Jesus is worthy of our trust.

THIS GUIDE IS A HYBRID FORMAT WITH PARTIAL LIVE TEACHING AND A 3 MINUTE VIDEO.

INTRODUCTION:

- **Series Overview:** We've all had questions about life and God: Is there a God? How can we know Him? Why does God allow pain and suffering? The answers to these questions really drive the purpose and direction of our lives, yet sometimes it's hard to know how to get these answers. Don't be intimidated if you don't have the answers - that's what we want to explore together!
- **Tonight's** question is a controversial one: "Is The Bible Legit?"
- First I'm going to share a few points, then we are going to watch a short video that speaks to the final point. Before we talk through it, I just want to say that there might be some of us who will disagree with others – and that is fine. We want this to be an honest, safe space for each of us to be real and expression our opinions. I'm going to start by sharing a few points we believe here at Hope.

POINT 1: THE BIBLE IS TRUTH, ABSOLUTE TRUTH.

- How do we know what is true? What is right? People may disagree on this but everyone has something they see as a source of truth.
- Absolute truth is something that is true at all times and in all places. It is something that is always true no matter what the circumstances. It is a fact that cannot be changed. For example, there are no round squares.
- We live in the "data age" meaning more data is at the access of our fingertips via the internet than any generation before. But "data" isn't the same as wisdom. Just because it is on the internet doesn't mean it's true.
- But what if it's a top article on a Google Search, a top video on YouTube, or a popular opinion among most people in your school – does that make it true?
- While a top search may be more reliable, it can still be wrong. Popular opinion can change (haven't we seen that changing so much just in the last year?)
- As Christians, we believe the ultimate source of truth is God's Word. People can be flawed – but God's word is our source of truth. We believe every word written down is inspired by God. That leads us to point 2:

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POINT 2: THE BIBLE IS INERRANT.

- Inerrant means incapable of being wrong.
- There actually is a lot of evidence outside the Bible supporting the Bible. Let's look at some fulfilled prophecies – a prophecy is something told before it happens.
- One example: have you ever heard of Alexander the Great? He was a great conqueror who came up with one of the craziest and most daring plans in the history of warfare to capture a city called New Tyre. This plan is in a bunch of history books. He also was known for hating God – yet unknowningly to him – he fulfilled a two hundred and fifty year old prophecy written in the Book of Ezekiel when he conquered Tyre. For 250 years non-believers could taint people of God saying – look! This prophecy has never happened! And now we can read it in our history books.
- Or how about the prophecies that Jesus fulfilled? In the Old Testament there are 44 major prophecies with 352 specific details about the Messiah. Jesus fulfilled EVERY ONE OF THEM. That would be like someone guessing 44 future years of Superbowl winners in a row and getting 352 specific details about the games right. The odds of this randomly happening are one in one hundred million billion. That is a landslide of evidence for both the Bible AND Jesus.

POINT 3: THE BIBLE IS TRUSTWORTHY ENOUGH TO FOLLOW WITH OUR LIVES.

- READ 2 Timothy 3:16-17.
- I hope you can see you can trust the EVERYTHING in the Bible, but we may have different opinions. And probably a pretty big objection may be rolling around in some of your minds: But isn't the Bible Offensive? Let's watch this short video on that.

WATCH THE VIDEO - ISN'T THE BIBLE OFFENSIVE? (3 MIN)

WRAP IT UP

- Our main point today is: We can trust the Bible is the most legit source of truth ever.
- Here at Hope we believe: Jesus and the Bible are worthy of our trust.
    - We believe the Bible is the true, inerrant word of God.
    - We believe the Bible is trustworthy enough to follow with our lives.
- But we want to talk about this more, so I'm going to pray for us and we are going to transition into small group discussion time.
- Close in prayer: God, please be with us as we talk about and wrestle with tough and controversial questions. We love you, thank you for loving us and being with us. Amen.

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