



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

(This weeks writer: Michael Green)

MONDAY

Why Four Gospels?
 Read: Luke 1:1-4
 The Scriptures tells us the sixty-six books which make up the Old and New Testament were written by men inspired by God. Read 2 Timothy 3:16 and 2 Peter 1:20-21. (Underline these verses. Write *Scriptures inspired by God* in the margin of your Bible.)

Luke tells us others also composed accounts of Jesus’s birth, life, death and resurrection. A few questions to ask:
Why do you think God gave us different gospel accounts?
What is your favorite gospel account and why?
Do you know who wrote each gospel and who they were writing to?

(Likely order of writing)
Mark’s Gospel - Written by John Mark (Acts 12:12, 25) to a Roman audience.
Matthew’s Gospel - Written by Matthew, one of the apostles, to a Jewish audience.
Luke’s Gospel - Written by Luke, the only Gentile writer, as a historical narrative.
John’s Gospel - Written by John, one of the apostles, to the church after the fall of Jerusalem (90-95AD).

TUESDAY

Calling Upon an Eyewitness
 Read: Luke 1:2; 1 John 1:1-4
 The courtroom is packed with people. There is great anticipation of the events of the day. As the man takes the stand a lawyer begins to question him carefully. “Mr. Brown, did you see the defendant with a gun in his hand?” “Yes, I did. I witnessed him with a gun in his hand.” His words carry weight in the outcome.

An eyewitness is someone who saw with their own eyes the events under consideration. The Bible tells us the apostles were eyewitnesses of Jesus. That means they saw with their own eyes all the things He said and did. An eyewitness is the most credible form of witness.
 Turn to each of the following verses. Write *eye witness testimony* next to each verse. Then, write the other verses below underneath the statement. You now have a small chain study on eye witness testimony. Verses: Deuteronomy 19:15; Matthew 18:15-17; Luke 1:2; 1 John 1:1-4; John 5:30-47; 1 Timothy 5:19.
Why is it important, before we assume something about someone, to make sure the information we have is credible? Don’t we have a responsibility of making sure what we share is true?

THURSDAY

Examine Everything Closely
 Read: Luke 1:3:1 Thessalonians 5:21
 Picture an archeologist in the desert. In one hand he has a small spade shovel. On his head he wears a special pair of magnifying glasses. Carefully he moves the soil around. Suddenly he hits something hard! He pulls a small brush out from his pocket and begins to move the dirt away from the object. At last, he carefully removes the object from the soil. As he holds it up to the sunlight it sparkles and shines. He has discovered a rare jewel worth a great deal of money!
 The Bible describes the knowledge contained in Scripture as “treasure” (2 Corinthians 4:7; Matthew 14:44-46). Luke said he had examined everything carefully and, by the Holy Spirit’s inspiration, wrote those things down. Later, Paul would tell us in 1 Thessalonians 5:21 to carefully examine everything, holding fast what is good. There is much false teaching about the Bible in the world. Like Luke, we must be very careful to examine the Scriptures so that we might uncover the truth.

Does an archeologist add value or take away value when he carelessly handles the treasure he has found?
How can people be careless with the Word of God?

FRIDAY

Things We Should Be Certain About
 Read: Luke 1:4; John 8:31-32
 There are some things in life we must be certain about. Other things we can be less certain about. When it comes to our salvation, relationship with God and understanding of the gospel we must be certain of these things! Luke said he wrote his gospel accounts so that we might have certainty concerning what we believe as Christians. Jesus said if we abide in His word we will “know the truth and the truth will set us free.”

What about when I have doubts?
 It is important to realize everyone has doubts at times. Did you know John the Baptist, a great man of faith, had doubts? (See Luke 7:19ff) What is important is what we do when we doubt? Do we allow the doubt to linger, become a snare, and lead us astray? Or do we seek answers from credible sources to alleviate our doubts.
Is the Bible enough? What about all the questions I have!
 The Bible tells us we have been given everything we need pertaining to the faith (2 Peter 1:3) and that the secret things belong to God (Deuteronomy 29:29). We have been given what we need to know how to live, how to be saved, and if we have eternal life.

LUKE 1:1-4

DAILY SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE:
 PRAYER - EXAMPLE: JOHN 17

REST:
 DID WE TAKE TIME TO REST, REFLECT & RECHARGE?

LORD’S DAY:
 SUNDAY, JANUARY 10TH

