

THE POWER OF THE WORD*"All Scripture is inspired by God."*

2 Timothy 3:16

**WARM UP**

"There was no gymnasium on our seminary campus, so we played basketball in the nearby public school. The janitor, an old black man

with white hair, would wait patiently until we had finished playing. Invariably he sat there reading his Bible. One day I went up to him and inquired, 'What are you reading?' The man did not simply reply, 'the Bible'. Instead he answered, 'The Book of Revelation'.

Surprised, I asked, 'The Book of Revelation - do you understand it?'

'Oh yes,' the man assured me, 'I understand it'.

'You understand the Book of Revelation! What does it mean?'

The old janitor answered, 'It means that Jesus is gonna win!'" *Bernard Travaileille*

**READ Matthew 4:1-11****QUESTIONS**

1. Discuss with the group the ways that you have found most helpful in reading the Bible.

2. Discuss with the group your favourite section of the Bible and what it means to you.

BACKGROUND

It is important to understand the meaning of the word to tempt. In the context of the scriptures it does not mean to try and persuade a person to do evil. It more clearly means to test a person. Just like God testing Abraham over the sacrifice of his son Isaac. The temptations are not to cause a person to sin but rather to enable a person to conquer sin.

3. How can we use the Bible to help us overcome what is wrong?

4. What does it mean when it says in 2 Timothy 3:16 that all scripture is inspired by God?

CONSIDER THIS

How much time does it take to read from Genesis to Revelation? If you would read the Bible at standard pulpit speed (slow enough to be heard and understood) the reading time would be 71 hours. If you would break that down into minutes and divide it into 365 days you could read the entire Bible, cover to cover, in only twelve minutes a day. Is this too much time to spend reading about God?

WRAP UP

Go around the room and read out loud Timothy 1 & 2 and allow God to speak to you through his Word.

**IT'S TIME FOR PRAYER****MY RESPONSE AS A PROMISE KEEPER**

I will read the whole Bible through from cover to cover in one year.

I will take note of special parts of the Bible that can help me overcome evil.

