

## Dig Deeper into “Why the Bible #3” for personal study and Life Groups...

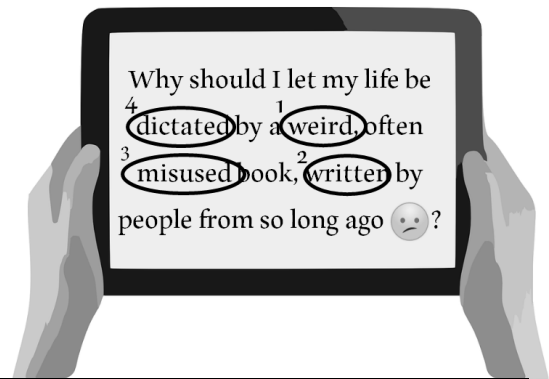
In this series we are looking at different aspects of the Bible:

**WEEK 1) THE CHARACTER OF THE BIBLE**

**WEEK 2) ITS AUTHOR & AUTHORITY**

**WEEK 3) ITS INTERPRETATION**

**WEEK 4) ITS USE AT CHURCH & HOME**



### Summary of the sermon this week on the Interpretation of the Bible:

- **Read it with prayer!** Looking to the Lord (2 Tim 2:7 and Psalm 119:18).
- **Read it with care!** Looking carefully at the context (2 Tim 2:15 & 2 Pet 3:16):
  - **section context** (ie surrounding material to get the authors true intent).
  - **book context** (taking account of the kind of literature, word use in that book, and clues about the original situation of the first readers).
  - **whole Bible context** (to ensure you are reading it in the light of the whole unfolding story of rescue in Jesus Christ).

1. *This is perhaps the trickiest area of all the 4 talks, partly because it is hardest to cover in one sermon. Don't let that panic you, but instead share any **questions** that you'd like to cover or that friends are asking.*
2. *Looking at 2 Tim 3:7 and Psalm 119:18, what difference will these verses make to the place of **prayer** in your approach to the Bible?*
3. *How would you answer this **objection**, "You Christians aren't consistent about the Bible. You pay a lot of attention to some verses but completely ignore those about not eating shellfish (Lev 11:9), not wearing head coverings (1 Cor 11:5), and releasing a goat once a year (Lev 16:26,34)". Are there any "context" principles that help how to approach these verses? [Also See Tim Keller article below].*
4. *How might we be able to spot if someone is "**twisting**" (ESV) or "**distorting**" (NIV) the Bible's message (2 Pet 3:16)? Can you think of examples? Where are we most likely to have blind spots?*
5. *Please **pray** for your own Bible interpretation and for those who teach at CCH, that we would "do our best (pew!) to present ourselves to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, and who correctly handles the word of truth" (2 Tim 2:15).*

### Resources

- **Tim Keller on applying OT laws and consistency:**  
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/making-sense-of-scriptures-inconsistency/>
- **David Jackman on going back to the author's intention in Bible Study:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IsZroMRoWRU>