

2 Timothy 3:14–17

¹⁴ But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them,

¹⁵ and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

¹⁶ All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Why the Scriptures are Vital 2 Timothy 3:14-17

INTRO:

Much of my post high school education involved the Bible. Yet, I found that although we talk a lot about the Bible, many do not regularly spend time reading or meditating in it like we are instructed to do in the Bible. **Psalm 1:1-2** says, *“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! But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.”* The word meditate means literally to mutter the word over and over again. We may not do that aloud, but we should do it in our hearts. Why should we do this? Because of what Paul told Timothy in **2 Timothy 3:14-17**.

I. They make us wise unto salvation (verses 14-15).

II. They are God breathed (verse 16a).

III. They equip us for His Work (verse 16b-17).

I. They make us wise unto salvation (verses 14-15).

“I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you before long; and that from childhood you have known the scriptures which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” 2 Timothy 3:14-15

A. The Scriptures are central because they teach us about Christ and salvation from sin.

B. Do you remember what the Lord Jesus said to those who challenged Him in **John 5:39**? *“You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.”*

II. They are God breathed (verse 16a).

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.” 2 Timothy 3:16a

A. The verb in the Greek means literally *“God breathed.”* This means the Bible is a divine book and God Himself was its author.

B. The Apostle Peter described how this happened.

“Knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” 2 Peter 1:20–21 (ESV)

III. They equip us for His Work (verse 16b-17).

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:16–17

A. First, we learn the Bible is profitable for teaching. We cannot understand who God is and what He is doing apart from His Word. So, we need to teach it in the church.

B. Second, it will reprove us.

“Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.” James 1:21–22

How is this for nailing us right where we live?

C. Third, the Scriptures are profitable for correction. This means to help us correct what is wrong.

D. Fourth for child training. To help us grow and learn how to walk as a child of God. This is not making sure we do the exercise correctly, but that we continue to do it.

E. Finally in **verse 17**, Paul wrote that the Scriptures makes us complete and competent to function as a person of God. It is the Word of God which equips or furnishes us with what we need to accomplish the work God called us to do.

What do we do with the Word of God?

Do we read it and study daily to feed us spiritually?

Do we love it and find ourselves daily in its pages?

Do we find in it the where-with-all to do God’s work?

Do we walk in its light all the way home?