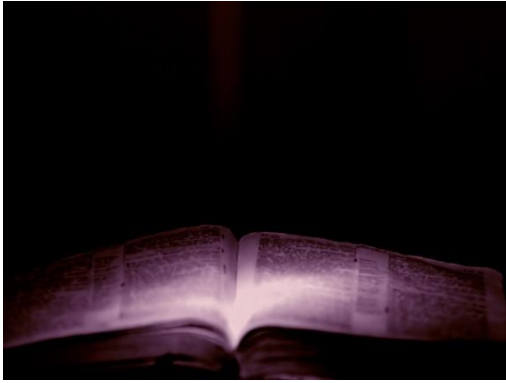


SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIALS FOR ADULTS

LESSON 5



A SUPERNATURAL BOOK

Scripture Texts: Deuteronomy 30:11-16; John 6:63; Galatians 1:11-12; Hebrews 4:12

God has spoken to us His will. It is in the Bible. The Bible is a God-given Book, not a man-written book. We are to believe and obey it.

God gave the Bible. The Bible is God's Word, not man's. The Bible is saturated with the Spirit of God and with His life-giving Word. The Bible has power to lead us to God. These facts make the Bible a supernatural Book, the only one in the world. Being supernatural, it is greater than a natural, human book. For this reason it is not understood by the natural mind. To try to make the Bible understandable and acceptable to the unsaved is to lower it to a lifeless book, helpless to lift man from his lost state. It takes the Holy Spirit to open the living meaning of the Bible to us.

MEMORY VERSE: *But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.*

—*Luke 11:28*

DAILY READINGS:

Mon.—**Deuteronomy 31:24-30** The Law kept in the ark.

Tue.—**2 Kings 22** The Book of God found.

Wed.—**Acts 13:38-52** Paul preaches the Word of God.

Thu.—**James 1:19-27** Receive the engrafted Word.

Fri.—**1 John 1:1-4; 1 John 2:1-6** To know Him, we must obey.

Devotional Reading: Deuteronomy 29:10-29 Punishment for forsaking God's Law.

God Has Made Known His Will

Deuteronomy 30:11-16 Moses was giving God's message to Israel in a final speech before his death. He said God's commandment was not hidden from Israel. They need not go to Heaven or across the sea to find it. God had brought it to them. It was **in thy mouth**—they knew and could repeat it—**in thy heart**—they understood it. Their conscience told whether they were obeying or disobeying it. We have God's commandment now even more fully than did Israel then (**Hebrews 8:8-11**). In this Gospel dispensation, we have the complete Bible. Also, He has given the Holy Spirit to live in us to teach and guide (**John 14:26; John 15:26; John 16:13**).

Man did not seek God to learn His will. God sought man. He said, **I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil.** The choice is ours. **To love the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments** is the way to **life and good**. Any other way is sin—the way to **death and evil**. We find His commandments in the Bible.

Christ's Words Are Spirit and Life

John 6:63 Jesus said **The words that I speak unto you, they are Spirit, and they are life.** The Spirit of God both sent them and uses them. They are living and can give life. We find His Words in the Bible. The Spirit of God is in the Bible, not in the paper and ink, but in the Word, the message. It was He Who dictated the Words to **holy men of God** who wrote them down. **The prophecy**—the Word from God—**came not . . . by the will of man** (**2Peter 1:20-21**). The Bible is not a man-made book. It is inspired by God.

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The Bible is to read and study and pray over and meditate on and know and love and live by. How can one who does not know the Bible be guided by it? Jesus said, If **my words abide in you . . . (John 15:7)**. We must have His Words so deep in our hearts that they are part of us. How can the Holy Spirit open God's Word to us if we do not expose ourselves to it and seek His enlightenment?

How can a home be Christian where God is not worshiped and His Word is not read? Children must be taught that their greatest need is salvation through Jesus Christ, and their most necessary knowledge is of the Bible. By leaving worship and Bible study to the church, a home is saying that these are not important in personal life. In **Matthew 28:19-20**, Jesus gave a commission to every saved person to preach the Word. A Scripture will reach hearts where our reasoning will not. It is God's means in our hands for taking the good news of life in Christ to the world.

Paul Preached a Revealed Gospel

Galatians 1:11-12 Paul exhorted the Galatians to hold fast to the Gospel he had preached. Why? Because it was a revealed Gospel. Because the Gospel **is not after man**—is not of man's making. Read **1 Corinthians 2:9-14**. Paul received it **by the revelation of Jesus Christ**. Christ first opened it to him on the Damascus Road, gave him more in the house of Judas, and much more in Arabia (**Acts 9:1-22; Galatians 1:15-17**). We have that same Gospel in the Bible. It is the revealed Word of God.

The Bible is the doctrine of the Church of God. It is not submitted to us for change or choice. Our part is to **hear** and to **keep (Memory Verse)**, to heed and to obey. The authority of God is in His Book. The same authority is not in humanly-made creeds, doctrines, and rules. Men are not to add to it or take from it. Read **Deuteronomy 4:2; Proverbs 30:6; Revelation 22:18-19**.

The Bible Is a Living Book

Hebrews 4:12 The word of God is **quick**—alive. It is **powerful** to enlighten, convince, convict of sin, and, if obeyed, to transform lives. It is sharp, able to divide and separate between things so similar that human insight can see no difference. It goes to the very center of Truth and opens it to us. It penetrates deep to discern **thoughts and intents of the heart**. It uncovers motives either good or bad, and it points out guilt. It uncovers to us the true condition of our hearts which we cannot see. We are not the Bible's judge, it is ours.

Man has heard from Heaven. God has given us the way by which we can live a happy life here and reach a successful destination to life eternal. What if our Creator had left us to guess and stumble our way not knowing where? But He is wise and loving. He gave man intelligence, personality, ability, and a desire to do well and good. He communicated His will to man as His created beings. His message is brought to man in one Book that above all others bears the mark of the supernatural. It is the Word of God—the Bible.

Thank God that He has revealed Himself to us in His Book and through His Son Jesus.

JUST A THOUGHT

**A mirror shows our dirt but does not wash it off.
The Bible shows our sin, but only Christ can wash it away.**

This lesson is adapted from a lesson by Mary Lehmann.
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