

WRITE IT DOWN!

A People of the Book

What in the World is the Church?

1 Peter 1:22-2:3

September 30, 2007

LISTEN UP!

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I. What the Bible is . . .

1. It is the _____ (1:23)
2. It is _____ (1:23)
3. It is _____ (1:23-25)
4. It is _____ (1:25)
5. It is _____ (2:2)

II. What the Bible does . . .

1. It _____ (1:23)
2. It _____ (2:2)
3. It _____ (2:3)

III. What We're To Do with the Bible . . .

1. Addressed to the _____
2. Based on a _____
3. Given as a _____

THINK IT OVER!

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1. Read 1 Peter 1-2:3. What truth is celebrated in 1:3 and then reiterated in 1:23? What is the agency of this miracle in each verse? To put it another way, “through” what does this miracle happen in each verse?
2. What kind of metaphor is Peter playing with beginning in 1:23 and continuing all the way through 1:25? Explain it. What do we learn about us? What do we learn about God’s Word? What do we learn about what God’s Word does to us?
3. What kind of metaphor does Peter employ in 2:2? What does this metaphor have in common with the one used earlier? What truths are being communicated?
4. Without looking at the outline, see if you can hunt down the “5 things that the Bible is” in 1:23-2:3. See if you can hunt down the “3 things the Bible does” in our lives.
5. What other passages can you recall which speak of the value and power of God’s Word and how we are to handle it?

WORK IT OUT!

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1. What did you like about this text and message? What moved you? What challenged you? What didn’t you understand?
2. How do people choose a church today? What do you think is the most important thing that most people look for in choosing a church?
3. When you look out on the landscape of evangelical churches, how do you notice the Word of God being de-emphasized and mishandled?
4. How do the following trends in our culture effect our hearing of God’s Word and our expectations and experience at church?
 - The emphasis on the visual.
 - The emphasis on entertainment.
 - The quickening pace of life
 - The emphasis on technology.
5. Why should we be “A People of the Book” according to this passage in Peter? Thinking about our worship services, what are some things we do to try and keep our worship and our life together centered around God’s Word . . .to be “A People of the Book”?