### Why is the Bible so different from other books Why is it so powerful?

#### 1. The Bible is not just the Word of God, the Bible contains the actual words of God

 (Jer 1:9) Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "Now, I have put my words in your mouth.

 (1Th 2:13) When you got the Message of God we preached, you didn't pass it off as just one more human opinion, but you took it to heart as God's true word to you, which it is, God himself at work in you believers!

#### 2. The Bible is a living, active book

 (Heb 4:12-13) "God means what he says. What he says goes. His powerful Word is sharp as a surgeon's scalpel, cutting through everything, whether doubt or defence, laying us open to listen and obey. Nothing and no one is impervious to God's Word. We can't get away from it--no matter what."

 (2Ti 3:16-17) "Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another--showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us."

#### 3. The Bible is full of really smart stuff

 (Mat 7:24) "These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundational words, words to build a life on. If you work these words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who built his house on solid rock.

 (2Ti 3:16-17) All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

#### 4. The Bible is not just a "nice to have"

- (Ps 119:105) Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path
- (Ps 119:130) The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.
- (Matt 4:4) "People need more than bread for their life; they must feed on every word of God"
- (Matt 5:6) "You're blessed when you've worked up a good appetite for God. He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat"

#### 5. Like God, his words are eternal

- (Mat 24:35) Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.
- (Isa 40:7-8) The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever."

# 6. The Bible brings us joy, we are blessed when we read it

- (Ps 119:14-16) "I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches. I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.
- (Luk 11:27-28) While he was saying these things, some woman lifted her voice above the murmur of the crowd: "Blessed the womb that carried you, and the breasts at which you nursed!" Jesus commented, "Even more blessed are those who hear God's Word and guard it with their lives!"
- (Ps 119:35) Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight.
- (Ps 19:8) The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

#### 7. The bible's truths are for Christians

- (John8:47) "He who is of God hears God's words"
- (Luk 24:45) He went on to open their understanding of the Word of God, showing them how to read their Bibles this way.
- (2Co 3:14-17) But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
- (Mat 11:25) "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes"

## 8. The word of God provides safety and sanctuary to his children

Eph 6 (11-17) says: "Put on the full armour of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

