

3. The REDISCOVERY and RETURN to God's Word throughout Israel's history is possible because of the clarity of God's Word. (Josiah & Ezra)
4. The metaphor of God's Word as LIGHT communicates the clarity of God's Word. (Psalm 36:9, 119:105, 130, 2 Peter 1:19)
5. When Jesus and the Apostles use the OLD TESTAMENT they assume the clarity of the God's Word.
6. While everyone can understand the words of the Bible, God gives BELIEVERS His Holy Spirit to ILLUMINE the Bible. (John 14:26, 16:13, 1 Corinthians. 2:12-15)

III. CONSEQUENCES of the Bible's Clarity

1. Read the Bible, EXPECTING and SEEKING to understand it, and by it, to understand EVERYTHING ELSE. (Psalm 36:9)
2. Remember Jesus and His Gospel are the KEY that UNLOCKS the rest of the Bible. (John 5:39, Luke 24:25-27)
3. ASK God and TRUST God to help you understand the Bible. (Psalm 119:18)
4. Use CLEAR passages about a subject to help you interpret and understand UNCLEAR passages.
5. PERSEVERE with the Bible. Your knowledge and understanding will grow with time. (1 Peter 2:2)

Amidst the relativism of today's world, many are questioning what we can know and if we can really know anything. This has raised doubts and questions about what we can know and understand in the Bible. These are really questions about the CLARITY of the Bible. So today we explore that issue. . .

I. Today's CONFUSION about the Bible's Clarity

- Relativism and pluralism have led to questions about if we can really know ANYTHING.
- Different INTERPRETATIONS and DIVISIONS among churches have raised doubts about the Bible's clarity.
- Questions about the COMPREHENSIBILITY of God raised doubts about the adequacy of human LANGUAGE to express truth about God.
- Hard to understand PARTS of the Bible have caused us to question the clarity of ALL the Bible.

II. The CASE for the Bible's Clarity

1. The FACT of God's Word implies the CLARITY of God's Word. God speaks to to REVEAL, not CONCEAL.
2. The Bible's many urgings to OBEY God's Word are based on the clarity of God's Word. (Deuteronomy 30:11-14)

Can We Know and Understand What the Bible Teaches?

Various Scriptures
March 11, 2018

Growth Groups are the glue that hold our church together. Growth Groups are groups of 6 - 12+ people that meet together during the week to process and apply the message, pray together, care for another and live life together. If you are interested in joining a Growth Group, go to gracecentralcoast.org.

Living Life Together

Take time to connect, share life, joys and struggles as you come together as fellow followers of Jesus.

Digging Into God's Word & the Message Together

1. What is one thing you learned in this week's message? What is one way you were challenged by the message?
2. In the message we talked about 4 reasons for today's confusion about the Bible's clarity. Read through those as a group. Which one of those resonated most with you? Can you think of other realities that have contributed to the confusion about the Bible's clarity?
3. We talked about 6 Biblical arguments that together make a case for the Bible's clarity. Read through those as a group. Which of these were new or fresh for you? Was there one that was especially compelling or convincing for you?

4. Read Deuteronomy 30:11-14. What is the context for these verses? Who is speaking and when? What is the point being made in these verses?

5. Read Psalm 119:105, 130, 2 Peter 1:19 and finally Psalm 36:9 in that order. Why/how/in what ways does the metaphor of light imply the clarity of God's Word? What unique truth is being taught in each verse? Spend some time discussing Psalm 36:9 in particular. What does "by your light we see light" mean?

6. Which of the 5 "consequences" of the Bible's clarity was most helpful or challenging to you and why?

Praying Together

- Read and use Psalm 119:18 as the fuel and fodder for your prayer together.
- Share and pray for one another's needs.