

SESSION 7 FAMILY GUIDE

IS THE BIBLE MORE IMPORTANT THAN OTHER BOOKS?

The Bible is holy and different than sacred texts of other religions and worldviews. There are many different religious books and worldviews, all with competing claims on truth. The Bible is the only book that is the authoritative Word of God and leads us in all truth. It is a book which is living and active, and it changes lives. The Bible proves itself true by fulfilled prophecies, eyewitness testimonies, numerous copies of ancient manuscripts, and the power to transform lives.

Key Verse: *2 Timothy 3:16-17*

Key Passage: *1 Corinthians 15:1-11*

STUDY

How is the Bible different from other books?

- Paul references the fulfilled prophecies of the Bible as evidence for the resurrection. Unlike other religious books, the Bible proves itself true by fulfilling what was written long before the event ever happened. No other religious book has ever predicted an event and seen it come true. Only a book written by an all-knowing, all-powerful God could predict future events. Additionally, the number of ancient copies of the Scriptures verifies its reliability and trustworthiness.

What other evidence proves the Bible is more important?

- What is written in the Scriptures was actually seen. When Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to Peter, then to the rest of the disciples, then to over 500 people at once, then to James, then the rest of the apostles. Anyone knows that the more witnesses you have to an event, the more you can prove the event really is true. The four authors of the gospel were also eyewitnesses to the life, miracles, death and resurrection of Jesus as well.

What makes the Bible holy and special?

- Paul's life was changed when He met Jesus on the road to Damascus. His conversion is an extremely credible witness. How else could you explain going from hating Jesus to being willing to die for Jesus? Not only that, but the other apostles also risked their lives for the sake of the gospel. Many even died while trying to take the good news of Jesus to the world. The Bible is the most important book because it has the power to transform lives.

DISCUSS

- How do I know the Bible is true and other religious books are not?
- How do I interact with people who disagree with the Bible?
- How do I love people who reject the Bible/Jesus?

PRAY

Talk with your preteen about any questions or doubts they may have about the Bible. Remind them that God is big enough to handle any questions they have, and that His Word is sufficient to answer them. Pray over any prayer requests or concerns. Ask God to make His Word a source of comfort and power in your life. Thank God for the gift of the Bible and for how it has the power to change lives.

TRANSFORMATIONAL POWER OF GOD'S WORD

Parents take the opportunity to share with your preteen how the Bible has changed your life. Perhaps you may even know of someone in your church that might be willing to share their story as well. Help your preteen to recognize that the Bible is the Word of God and is the most important book they will ever read.