

H.A.B.I.T.S - WK. 1

“The Bible: Hearing from God?”

Speaker: Michael Craddock

“True North exists to make disciples by leading students into a vital relationship with Jesus Christ, and by equipping with Biblical world and life view.”

Illus. – The Big Picture & The Small Pieces

True North Mission Statement: - see Matt. 28:16-20

“True North exists to make disciples by leading students into a vital relationship with Jesus Christ, and by equipping with Biblical world and life view.”

Christianity is NOT: A Religion – not just routine, not impersonal spirituality

Christianity IS: A relationship is established by hearing and speaking.

1. Question # 1: Whose word(s) is this?

ANSWER: The Bible is **GOD’S** Word(s) – see 2 Tim. 3:16-17

- Not only God’s Word, but God’s word(s).

2. Question # 2: So What is God talking about?

ANSWER: God is talking about JESUS ! – see John 5:39

3. Question # 3: For whom has God spoken about Jesus?

ANSWER: God has spoken *FOR US (THIS MEANS YOU!)*! – Romans 15:4

Written to people like us –

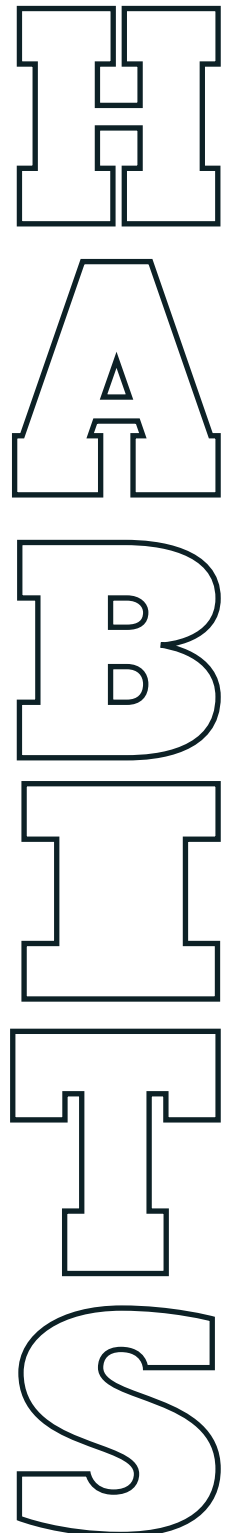
- People to whose **FAITH** we imitate – 1 Cor. 11:1
- People to whose **FAILURES** we avoid – 1 Cor. 10:6, 11

4. Question # 4: “If God’s word is for me, what does it do for me?”

ANSWER: It **BRINGS** us into a relationship with God – (1 Pt. 1:23, Ja. 1:18; Jn 3:5-8; Rom. 10:17)

ANSWER: It **MATURES** us in our relationship with God – 2 Tim. 3:16-17

- Teaches – give right beliefs
- Corrects – removes false beliefs
- Rebukes – removes wrong behaviors
- Trains – gives us right behaviors



- Addresses our hearts: Heb. 4:12-13 (our problem, see Jer. 17:9, Mark 7:14-23)

5. Question 5: So Where Do I Start!

ANSWER: It **DEPENDS**! – see Acts 8:31!

Option 1: Start w/ John (and Life Issues Books)

Option 2: Spend time in Proverbs (31 chapters, 31 days in the month)

Option 3: Use a Reading Plan: See - <http://www.esv.org/biblereadingplans> has 10 options!

Option 3: Use A Devotional Guide/Book – great online resources

- <http://www.livingchristtoday.com/> - Great short daily devotionals, written & audio
- <http://www.planetwisdom.com/devotional/> - well written & engaging, good resource

DIG-ing Deeper

How To Have A Quiet Time – A H.A.B.I.T. OF EXPECTATION

1. **EXPECT TO HEAR FROM GOD** – These are his words? – 2 Tim. 3:16-17
2. **EXPECT TO BE POINTED TO JESUS** – How does this point me to my need for Christ? What do I learn about God – Father, Son, Holy Spirit – (what is he like?)
3. **EXPECT TO HEAR A WORD FOR YOU** – Think about the people described, what should you imitate, what should you avoid?
4. **EXPECT TO BE CHANGED** – How does what God say in the passage/verse...
 - TEACH YOU – New thoughts/beliefs on God, life, yourself, your world, others?
 - CORRECT YOU – Change existing beliefs you had about life, yourself, your world, others?
 - REBUKE YOU – Change existing behaviors toward God, yourself, your world, others?
 - TRAIN YOU – Give you new ways of living/treating God, yourself, your world, others?
5. **EXPECT TO NEED A HEART CHANGE** – Ask God to impact your heart for lasting change!

Come next week ready to hear more from your leaders as they reflect on their own failures and success when it comes to the “habit” of TALKING TO GOD in their relationship with him!