



How can we know the Bible is true?



BIG IDEA

The Bible is not blind faith or a random collection of writings—it is a historically reliable source that ultimately points us to Jesus, the One we can trust with our lives.



ICE BREAKER

What is something you once doubted but later realized was true after looking into the evidence



MAIN POINTS

Trust is built through two things: **quality** and **quantity**. The same is true when asking if the Bible can be trusted.

The Bible is made up of **66 books written over 1,500 years by more than 40 authors**, yet it tells one unified story centered on Jesus.

The reliability of Scripture is supported through manuscript evidence:

1. **Quality** – The New Testament has manuscripts dating much closer to the original writings than most ancient historical works we trust today.
2. **Quantity** – There are more than **20,000 manuscripts** of the New Testament in Greek, Latin, and other languages.
3. **Consistency** – Scholars have carefully studied and compared manuscripts for centuries to preserve an accurate text.
4. **Credibility** – Compared to other ancient writings, the manuscript evidence for the Bible is historically unmatched.

Many struggles with belief are not caused by a lack of evidence, but by pain, disappointment, bitterness, or fear of surrender.

Wounds can keep you from Jesus, but only Jesus can heal your wounds.

The invitation of the Bible is not simply to trust a book, but to trust the God the book reveals.



DISCUSS

1. What stood out to you most from this week’s message?
2. When someone asks, “Can we trust the Bible?” how would you answer?
3. Why do we struggle to think that the Bible is true?
4. What are some of the ways people “run” from pain, wounds, or hard truths instead of facing them with God? Why can running feel more comfortable than surrender?
5. Shane said, “**Wounds can keep you from Jesus, but only Jesus can heal you.**” How have you seen pain become either a barrier to faith or a pathway toward healing?
6. The Bible is not just information—it points us to Jesus, the Living Word. How does that change the way you view reading Scripture?



NEXT STEP

Take one step this week based on where you are:

- **If you believe** → Live with confidence in your faith and be ready to share why
- **If you’re new to faith** → Take a step toward Jesus (tell someone, explore baptism, keep learning)
- **If you have doubts** → Don’t ignore them, wrestle with them and keep seeking truth
Ask yourself:

- Where in your life might Jesus be inviting you to stop running and take a next step of trust toward Him?

“Do I trust my doubts more, or do I trust the evidence for Jesus?”



SCRIPTURE

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- Hebrews 4:12
- John 20:31



**NEXT WEEK
SNEAK PEAK**

Join us next week to welcome back Shane Woods to speak into - If the Bible is God's Word...How do we use it and apply it to our lives?

Questions or Feedback? Email Groups@CentralAZ.com