

**OCF Small Groups:** *passionately pursuing God, healthy relationships with each other, and people who don't know Jesus, as part of a Gospel Community.*

## **Questions from Grudem's Systematic Theology – Chapter 4 The Four Characteristics of Scripture: (1) Authority\***

(Sunday, January 16)

1. a. When was the last time you bumped into the “authorities”? What was that like for you?  
  
b. How do you receive authority in general?
  
2. If you want to persuade someone that the Bible is God's Word and our final authority, what would you want that person to read more than any other piece of literature or what would you want them to know?
  
3. a. What makes Scripture our final authority?  
  
b. What parts of Scripture are difficult to believe? What parts are difficult to obey?  
  
c. How do we overcome these difficulties?
  
4. a. Is there any proven fact in history that has shown something in the Bible to be false and not authoritative? Explain.  
  
b. Can the same be said about other religious writings such as the Book of Mormon or the Qur'an? Why or why not?  
  
c. Hebrews 4:12 talks about the spiritual effect the Bible will have on an individual. In what ways has the Bible been “living” and “active” in your life?

5. a. Do you ever find yourself believing something not because you have external evidence for it but simply because it is written in Scripture? Why or why not?
- b. What makes you believe something in the Bible without needing external evidence?
- c. How does trusting Scripture and obeying everything that it affirms lead us away from sin and into blessings of God in our life?

(\*Some of the discussion questions were edited, but most credit is due to Grudem, Wayne A.. Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine (pp. 85-86). Zondervan. Kindle Edition.)

## **SCRIPTURE MEDITATION** Hebrews 4: 12

<sup>12</sup>For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

## **PRAY**

Lord Jesus, thank you that your word is living and active. Thank you for your word that penetrates the deepest parts of me. Help me to trust and obey it. Help me to submit to it as our final authority. In Jesus' name I pray, AMEN.