



# Sunday Teaching Guide

I LIKE JESUS: I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THE BIBLE, Week 2  
April 14, 2024

## Bible Texts

- 2 Timothy 3:10-16

## Important Terms

- Inerrancy: A basic definition is that inerrancy assumes that the Bible is without error in anything it states. This concept came out of a defense of the Bible to challenges brought by modern questions and discoveries. Rather than lean into the tension of these questions, some people chose to defend the Bible with this belief and drew lines in the sand.

## Sermon Notes

- The books of Timothy were letters written by the Apostle Paul to a young man named Timothy. Paul wrote that his life and what he had gone through were lessons in faith. He had endured times of incredible struggle but experienced rescue through Jesus. Paul told Timothy to keep going in what he learned from the way of Jesus and what he believed about Jesus. Paul told Timothy that the Hebrew Scriptures were just as essential as experience to developing his faith. While what Paul said to Timothy is sometimes interpreted as meaning that the Bible is inerrant, this is not the only interpretation of the passage.
- God allowed a collection of stories, history, and letters to be written by people. One of the stories that one of the writers in the Bible told was this narrative about God creating man from the dust. As we breathe, we are reminded of the divine life at work with us. Yet our lives, bodies, and time are fragile and imperfect. To dust, we will return. The words we read on the pages of scripture are people, imperfect people, who experienced faith, loss, tragedy, hope, peace, and the mystery of God's divine life in their veins. As we read the words of the scripture, we are reminded of our imperfections as well as theirs. As people found beauty, inspiration, and the experience of divine life in this collection, they began to bring it together and see an even larger story of God's rescue, redemption, and restoration being told through his people, Jesus, and the community called the church.
- As recipients of this ancient book of faith, we are now a part of this never-ending process of inspiration, interpretation, and transformation that happens when we wrestle with this book, made beautiful not by some false assumptions of perfection but because through its pages we discover a more profound invitation to find God.

## Reflection Questions

- How often do you read the Bible? How do you decide what to read?
- What sort of value do you place on Scripture? How important is Scripture to faith?
- Are there verses or stories from the Bible that seem hard to understand their purposes? What do you do with such verses and stories? Do you seek out answers yourself or ask others for help in understanding them?
- What are some of your favorite verses or passages from the Bible? Are there any stories from the Bible that you find inspiring or stories that can teach people something?
- What are some ways that you can approach Scripture with an open-mind to understanding various perspectives, traditions, and interpretations?
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## Prayer for the Week

- God, creator of the universe, open our hearts and minds in approaching the Scriptures in an effort to seek both truth in your Word and understanding. Amen.

## Additional Readings

- Psalm 12:6
- Isaiah 40:8
- Matthew 4:4