

## **2 TOOLS: the Bible and prayer**

### Introduction

1 AIM	Glorify God
2 TOOLS	The Bible Prayer
3 TASKS	Tell Teach Train

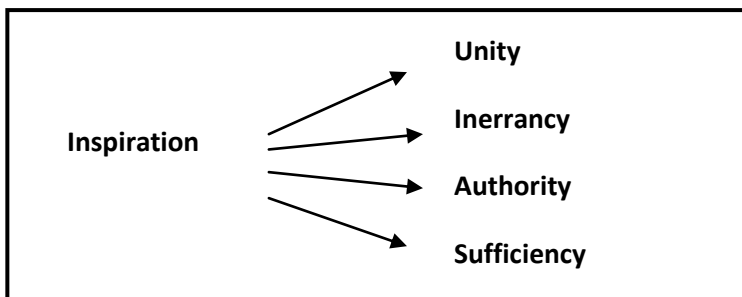
Q: How does God work in order to bring himself glory?

Q: How are we to line ourselves up behind him?

## **A. The Bible: God has spoken... powerfully**

### 1. The Inspiration of Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

- a. Definitions: not... but...
- b. Implications of the inspiration of Scripture



## **2. The Bible is POWERFUL and SUFFICIENT**

2 Timothy 3:16-17

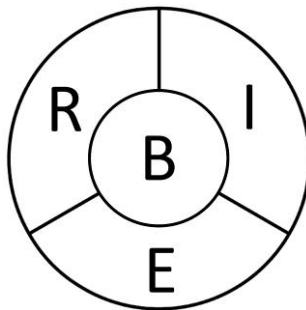
*How does this text speak of the power of God's Word?*  
1 Peter 1:23-2:2

See also:

Psalm 119, Jn 5:24-30, Jn 14:10, Acts 20:32, Eph 4:11-16, Eph 6:17, Col 1:28-29,  
2 Peter 1:3-4, Jude 1:3

→ The Scriptures are both the RECORD of salvation  
and the MEANS of salvation.

## **3. Danger: where else might we look for the power of God?**



**To read and think about:**

“Do we believe that God has given us what we need in this book? Or do we suppose that we have to supplement the Bible with human things? Do we need sociological techniques to do evangelism, pop psychology and pop psychiatry for Christian growth, extra-biblical signs or miracles for guidance, or political tools for achieving social progress and reform?

“It is possible to believe that the Bible is the inerrant Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice, and yet to neglect it and effectually repudiate it just because we think that it is not sufficient for today’s tasks and that other things need to be brought in to accomplish what is needed. This is exactly what many evangelicals and evangelical church are doing.” James Montgomery Boice, *Whatever happened to the Gospel of Grace* (p.72)

“I want to know one thing the way to heaven; how to land safe on that happy shore. God Himself has condescended to teach the way; for this very end He came from heaven. He hath written it down in a book. O give me that book! At any price, give me the book of God! I have it: here is knowledge enough for me. Let me be "homo unius libri" (a man of one book).” John Wesley, *Preface to Standard Sermons*.

## **B. Prayer: we can speak... to our powerful God**

### **1. How do Bible and Prayer fit together?**

### **2. Why do we pray?**

*Read 1 Peter 5:5-7. According to these verses...*

What are we like?

What is God like?

How do we approach him?

Why?

*Read Romans 10:10-13.*

What promises of God do we read of in these verses?

How do take hold of these promises?

### **Homework / questions for reflection**

- What does the Bible do? See Psalm 119, Jn 5:24-30, Jn 14:10, Acts 20:32, Eph 4:11-16, Eph 6:17, Col 1:28-29, 2 Peter 1:3-4, Jude 1:3
- Read some of the Bible's great prayers. How can my/our praying more resemble these? (see, for example, *Matthew 6:9-13*, Romans 10:1, Philippians 1:9-11, 1 Thessalonians 3:10-13, 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4, 11-12, Colossians 1:9-14, Ephesians 1:15-23, 3:14-21 )
- Consider: What will a church that is given to the Bible and to praying look like?