Formed by the Word: Sufficiency of Scripture

Where do you turn for answers when you are facing a difficult life situation (conflict; financial problems; marriage difficulties; stress, etc.)? Life is full of these kinds of issues, right? And so seriously, where do you go for answers? Is your first instinct to find a book or podcast on the topic? Or do you turn to the Word of God? In this study we continue our sermon series called *Formed by the Word*, in which we are looking at four core attributes of Scripture (Authority, Necessity, Sufficiency, Clarity). Today, we are looking at the Sufficiency of Scripture, which means that **God's Word tells us everything we need to know for salvation and godliness**.

Opening Discussion: What is a difficult life situation that you are facing right now?

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17

- 1. How does Paul make the case that Scripture tells us everything we need to know for salvation?
- 2. How does Paul make the case that Scripture tells us everything we need to know for godliness?

Read Psalm 19:7-14; Psalm 119:1; 2 Peter 1:2-4

3. How do these verses add to our understanding of the Scripture's sufficiency for godliness?

Read Psalm 1

- 4. How would you describe the blessed person's approach to Scripture?
- 5. How does this psalm portray the result of one who has this approach to Scripture?

Brian said:

Give yourself wholeheartedly to Scripture. As I've already mentioned, so often our first impulse is to find what another believer has said about the topic at hand whether it is a doctrinal issue or a practical life issue. We so quickly go to books, podcasts, sermons, or any number of places at times more than we go to the actual words that God has given us. Be a Psalm 1 kind of person. Delight in God's Word. Make it your focus. Read it. Study it. Memorize it. Meditate on it. Knowing that Scripture is sufficient, let it be the thing that is truly forming your mind and your life. Give yourself wholeheartedly to Scripture.

- 6. What is your first impulse when you are facing a life question or difficult situation? Do you typically go to Scripture first or to something else? Explain.
- 7. What might it look like for you to give yourself more wholeheartedly to Scripture?
- 8. What would it look like for our group, or Faith Manhattan as a church, to give ourselves wholeheartedly to Scripture? How can we help each other in this?