

In the beginning was the WORD

There are a lot of words out there

- Good words
- Bad words
- Simple words
- Complex words

There are a lot of words out there

- Good words
- Bad words
- Simple words
- Complex words
- Short words with big meaning
  - sin

There are a lot of words out there

- Good words
- Bad words
- Simple words
- Complex words
- Short words with big meaning
  - sin
- Long words with small meaning
  - infinitesimal

Meaning of words change

- Turkey

Meaning of words change

- Turkey
  - Thanksgiving dinner

Meaning of words change

- Turkey
  - Thanksgiving dinner
  - Goofball or Dork

Meaning of words change

- Turkey
  - Thanksgiving dinner
  - Goofball or Dork
  - Protein of choice

Meaning of words change

- Turkey
  - Thanksgiving dinner
  - Goofball or Dork
  - Protein of choice
- Paula Deen learned ten the past 10 days

### Meaning of words change

- Turkey
  - Thanksgiving dinner
  - Goofball or Dork
  - Protein of choice
- Paula Deen learned ten the past 10 days
- Words can be meant to harm
  - But received joyfully if intent is misunderstood

### God defines Jesus as WORD

- Ultimately, communication is successful if if the receiver of the message understands the message the way the giver of the message intended it to be

### God defines Jesus as WORD

- Ultimately, communication is successful if if the receiver of the message understands the message the way the giver of the message intended it to be
- God is the Giver

### God defines Jesus as WORD

- Ultimately, communication is successful if if the receiver of the message understands the message the way the giver of the message intended it to be
- God is the Giver
- We are the receivers

### God defines Jesus as WORD

- Ultimately, communication is successful if if the receiver of the message understands the message the way the giver of the message intended it to be
- God is the Giver
- We are the receivers
- Jesus is the message
  - He communicates Who God is and what He desires

### Human meaning changes, but eternal meaning is consistent

- So we have to understand context

### Human meaning changes, but eternal meaning is consistent

- So we have to understand context
  - When this word was spoken, what did it mean?

### Human meaning changes, but eternal meaning is consistent

- So we have to understand context
  - When this word was spoken, what did it mean?
  - If it meant that then, and God does not change, then does it mean the same thing now?

### Evangelical Christians

- "Evangelicals take the Bible seriously and believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord."
  - *National Association of Evangelicals*

### Evangelical Christians

- “Evangelicals take the Bible seriously and believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.”
  - *National Association of Evangelicals*
- Well, duh
  - That may be where all churches started out, but it's not where they are today...

### Take the Bible seriously...

- Evangelicals/ Wesleyans believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God

### Take the Bible seriously...

- Evangelicals/ Wesleyans believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God
  - God used human hands and minds to write the thoughts/record the conversations He had

### Take the Bible seriously...

- Evangelicals/ Wesleyans believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God
  - God used human hands and minds to write the thoughts/record the conversations He had
  - Those writing the Bible were inspired by the Holy Spirit

### Believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord

- Once again, “duh” factor

### Believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord

- Once again, “duh” factor
- But meaning of words “change” and many wear the “cross of Christ” but don't believe

### Believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord

- Once again, “duh” factor
- But meaning of words “change” and many wear the “cross of Christ” but don't believe
- Many fill pews in “Christian” churches each Sunday and believe there's more than one way

### Believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord

- Once again, “duh” factor
- But meaning of words “change” and many wear the “cross of Christ” but don't believe
- Many fill pews in “Christian” churches each Sunday and believe there's more than one way
- Many fill the pulpits of “Christian” churches and believe there is more than one way

### Jesus is The Word of God - His Message to humanity

- The Way, the Truth, the Life
- The Light of the World
- The Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world

### The Bible is God's Holy Word

- Old and New Testament equally important and integral in understanding the other

### The Bible is God's Holy Word

- Old and New Testament equally important and integral in understanding the other
- Literal truth when literal words are used
- Figurative truth when figurative words are used

### The Bible is God's Holy Word

- Old and New Testament equally important and integral in understanding the other
- Literal truth when literal words are used
- Figurative truth when figurative words are used
- Historically accurate
- Complete

### What do we believe?

- All those who are in a relationship with God choose to walk through life holding onto the hand of His Only Son, Jesus

### What do we believe?

- All those who are in a relationship with God choose to walk through life holding onto the hand of His Only Son, Jesus
- Our purpose in life is to bring glory to God through that relationship and to enjoy His love forever in heaven

### What do we believe?

- All those who are in a relationship with God choose to walk through life holding onto the hand of His Only Son, Jesus
- Our purpose in life is to bring glory to God through that relationship and to enjoy His love forever in heaven
- The Bible is inspired by God, written by man through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and its purpose is to reveal His love through Jesus Christ