

In the beginning was the WORD

There are a lot of words out there

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

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- Short words with big meaning
 - sin

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- Short words with big meaning
 - sin
- Long words with small meaning
 - infinitesimal

Meaning of words change

- Turkey

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- Turkey
 - Thanksgiving dinner

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 - Goofball or Dork

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

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- 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

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 - 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*

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- Well, duh
 - That may be where all churches started out, but it's not where they are today...

Take the Bible seriously...

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- 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

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- 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

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- Literal truth when literal words are used
- Figurative truth when figurative words are used

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- 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