

RCMI L-Path Teaching
January 19, 2020 [2nd service]

TITLE: CORRECTLY HANDLED SCRIPTURE IS KEY!

TEXT: Matthew 5:17-20; 2 Timothy 3: 16-17; 2 Timothy 2:15

BIG IDEA: Correctly Handling Scripture requires us to understand that all Scripture is validated through a process of interpretation; that all Scripture is like an iceberg and that all Scripture points to the love of Christ.

INTRO: 2020 is the Year of Manifested Word!

SCRIPTURE Is RELIABLE! 2 Tim. 3: 16-17

- “When there’s something in the Word of God that I don’t like, the problem is not with the Word of God, it’s with me.”— R.C. Sproul
- “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.” – 2 Timothy 2:15
- “You can be right and I can be wrong or I can be right and you can be wrong or we can both be wrong. But we can’t both be right.” - John MacArthur
- With this in mind, understand that the problem is not with God’s Word; it’s with the Handler.
- Matthew 5, the first chapter of the Sermon on the Mount, meant to challenge us the way we read and the way we handle the Word of God. The issue at stake for Jesus here is how the Word of God is handled.
- Jesus’ followers ought to know how to correctly handle the Word Of God.
- Jesus teaches, “I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.” [v.17b]
- The word ‘fulfill’ in Greek literally means ‘to add weight to something;’ ‘to stabilize something that is insecure.’
- Jesus says you’ve heard the Word Of God but only the Pharisees’ version of it. So I’ve come to fulfill it and to give some weight to it so that you understand how to read it correctly; how to use it correctly; how to apply it correctly because what you’re hearing from the scribes and the Pharisees is not always right.

FACT: All Scripture Is Subject To Reader’s Interpretation.

- All Scripture is interpreted by the one who reads it.
- How can we both read the same passage and get different understandings?
- Because you and I are different people.

LESSONS ON CORRECTLY HANDLING SCRIPTURES

I. ALL SCRIPTURE SHOULD GO THROUGH A PROCESS OF INTERPRETATION.

- General Principle: A passage has one interpretation but many applications.
- You may have a personal interpretation of the Scripture you just read but in order for you to correctly handle it, you need to submit it to process of interpretation for validation.
- General Principle: A passage has one interpretation but many applications.

II. ALL SCRIPTURE SHOULD BE TREATED LIKE AN ICEBERG.

- Scripture is deeper than it appears
- The literal reading of Scripture is just the beginning. A literal interpretation is not a fulfilled interpretation.
- In order to get to the depth, not only must you be open but in order to get to the depth of what God is saying , you got to be willing to do the hard work.
- The Bible will always be dangerous in lazy hands.

III. ALL SCRIPTURE SHOULD BE READ THROUGH THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST.

- Jesus ends this lesson talking about love because the end of the day, it doesn't matter how many you quote, it's how much love you have.
- You must use the Bible in love.
- I don't care how many Scriptures you quote if there's no love in how you use the word of God and love in your objective then you are using the word of God incorrectly.

CHALLENGE: Learn to handle the Word of God correctly.
Correctly Handled Scripture Is Reliable!

DISCUSSION:

- What have you learned from our study this morning? Share.
- Discuss the importance of correct handling of Scriptures.
- Experience God's manifested Word this year!