

Can We Trust the Bible?
Part 2
Rich Barrett

Group Discussion Guide

Discussion

In Luke 1:1-4, what does Luke say about how he put together his account? What words or phrases show his approach to accuracy and reliability?

Rich compared the transmission of the Bible to the game of telephone. What are some key differences between how the Bible was copied and how the telephone game works? Have you ever struggled with doubts about the Bible's reliability? What helped you, or what would help you resolve those doubts?

Rich claimed that Christianity is built on the resurrection, not just a book. Why is this distinction important for understanding the foundation of our faith?

Luke claims to have "carefully investigated everything from the beginning" (Luke 1:3). What does this suggest about the nature of the Gospel accounts and their trustworthiness?

The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls confirmed the accuracy of our modern copy of this 2,700 year-old document. How does this archaeological evidence affect your confidence in the reliability of the Old Testament?

Rich mentioned that honest questions and textual differences are not hidden in our Bibles today. How does this transparency impact your trust in the Bible?

The process of copying and preserving the Bible was described as "multiplicative" and full of checks and balances. How does knowing this affect your willingness to read and trust Scripture for yourself?

Rich encouraged reading the Bible for yourself, even just three minutes a day. What is one small, realistic change you could make to your daily routine to spend more time in God's Word?

A note from Rich:

I'm grateful we could explore together how the Bible we hold in our hands is far more than just a passed-down story—it's a collection of carefully preserved eyewitness accounts that have shaped history and continue to reveal the truth about Jesus. This week, we unpacked how the Bible was written by 40 different authors over 1,600 years, how archaeology confirms its reliability, and why Christianity is built not on the book itself but on the resurrection event it records. We also addressed common doubts about translation and textual changes, showing that the Bible has been preserved with extraordinary care and accuracy, unlike the game of telephone many imagine it to be.

I want to challenge you to stop silencing God's voice in your life by neglecting the Bible. Pick up your Bible and read it for yourself—not just because you believe it's true, but because it's a document that has changed the world and can change your life. If you've been skeptical or hesitant, come with an open heart and see what the eyewitnesses saw. And if you've been following Jesus for a long time, let this be a fresh reminder that the Bible is a trustworthy, life-changing gift meant to be read and lived out daily.