

1 - Is the Bible Reliable

Part One

The WORD

Icebreaker:

Ask:

How do we know the following statements are true:

- George Washington was the first president of the United States.
- Neil Armstrong was the first person to walk on the moon.
- Mark Twain wrote *Tom Sawyer*.

The idea here is to help the group understand ways that we verify historical facts, such as reading the accounts of people who were there, the number of witnesses of a certain event who agree, and the trustworthiness of sources.

Watch the Video

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you determine if someone is telling you the truth?
2. How do you evaluate the reliability of things you read in the newspaper or see on the internet?
3. Review the information comparing the Bible to other words of ancient literature.

Author	Written	Earliest Copy	Time Span	Copies available
Plato	427-347 BC	900 AD	1200 years	7
Aristotle	384-322 BC	1100 AD	1400 years	49
Sophocles	496-406 BC	1000 AD	1400 years	193
The New Testament	48 AD	130 AD	80 years	24633

4. What does the evidence suggest to you about the reliability of the Bible? How does that change the way we view the scripture?

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,