**The Trilogy Series Week 1: The Word Part 1**

Sharing: Turn to the person next to you and ask them if they have ever read a trilogy? And if they have, what was it?

Maybe it was the Divergent trilogy… or The Hunger Games trilogy… or The Lord of the Rings trilogy…

Or The Maze Runner trilogy – oops – there are 4 books in that series.

Or The Twilight trilogy – oops – there were 5 books in that series.

Or The Harry Potter trilogy – oops – there were 7 books in that series.

Sharing: For those not so much into reading, maybe you have watched a trilogy on the big screen – like Batman. Turn to the person next to you and ask them whether they have ever watched a movie trilogy? And if so, what was it? And has anyone watched all 3 movies in 1 day?

Maybe it was The Lord of the Rings… or the Matrix… or Back to the Future… or Toy Story.

So welcome to the Trilogy Series at His Youth on Sunday mornings.

The church has this mission statement: We see lives, communities and society transformed through discipleship in the Word, the presence and power of God.

Here is our mission statement at His People Church: We see lives, communities and society transformed through discipleship in the Word, the presence and the power of God.

Let’s say it together: We see lives, communities and society transformed through discipleship in the Word, the presence and the power of God.

There it the trilogy for our series: Word, Presence and Power.

Actually there is a second triligy too: Lives, Communities and Society – but that is not our main focus this term.

Part 1 is all about the Word. The Trilogy Series: We start with 3 weeks focusing on the Word - where we will learn how to get into God's word (daily reading/devotions/skills for devotional reading and studying the Word).

Part 2 is all about the presence of God where over 3 weeks we will explore how to experience the Presence of God in your daily life and when we worship God on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary.

Part 3 is Power: We will end with weeks focusing on the Power of God which will all be about relating to the Holy Spirit and experience his Baptism, Filling and power to witness.

So let’s open up Book 1: The Word and introduce the first part of our trilogy!

Have any of you seen this movie? The Book of Eli

Video: The Book of Eli Trailer. Get it on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kAMUv22y1og

The movie is set in an American west covered in the hot, dirty wind due to an apocalypse, Eli is on a journey to the west on a quest from God. Somehow religion was blamed for the apocalypse and all the holy books in the world were burned. Eli is an old man now and is carry a “mysterious” book west, as the voice is guiding him to do.

Believed to be the last Bible on Earth, Eli is willing to sacrifice his life to protect it…

Elis meets Carnegie, a crime boss, who is searching for the book so he can use it to control people

“It’s not just a book. It’s a weapon. A weapon aimed right at the hearts and minds of the weak and the desperate. It will give us control of them. If we want to rule more than one small town, we have to have it. People will come from all over, they’ll do exactly what I tell them if the words are from the book. It’s happened before and it’ll happen again. All we need is that book!” (Carnegie)

Eli was willing to embark on an epic journey to get it delivered to a place – the prizon of Alcatraz on an island – where it could be copied and distributed to the world.

Here is a clip from the end of the movie where the book has been successfully copied and preserved…

Video: The Book of Eli Final Prayer. Get it on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OHuyd-n\_7KE

What book would you be willing to risk your life for if you had the last copy on planet earth?

How seriously do you take the Bible? As you watch the movie you are deeply challenged about how lightly we take the Bible – for Eli it was something that he was willing to give his life to protect.

In ancient times, scribes spent up to 2 years hand copying the Bible on parchment or scrolls so that it could be shared with others…

Would you write out a copy for someone else to read if you had the last copy on earth?

Some years back there was a chap, Brother Andrew, who used to smuggle Bibles into countries like China – and he knew that he could be jailed or even executed for doing so – but he believed that the Bible was so special that people had to get a copy even if it meant that he could lose his life!

Would you be willing to risk your life to get a copy of the Bible into someone’s hands?

In days gone by people had to carry around huge big bibles…

Today you don’t have to carry a giant copy of the Bible around with you – you can just download the app for your phone… Like the YouVersion Bible!

Some people devote their whole lives to preaching the Bible!

So what is the story of the Bible?

Video: What is the Story of the Bible? Get it on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LBmxzvqsz-8

Is the Bible historically reliable?

Video: What is the Story of the Bible? Get it on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LBmxzvqsz-8

Isaiah 40:8 says: “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands Forever.”

But is the Bible the Word of God? Here is a short video clip about the trustworthiness of the Bible.

Video: How Do We Show Someone The Bible Is Trustworthy? Get it on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AYDxyiCBGI4

No other book has the power to challenge, change, comfort or correct us like the Bible!

2 Timothy 3:16-17 has this to say about the Bible: “All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work”. (The Living Bible)

2 Timothy 3:16-17 in the Message translation says: “Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God’s way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us”. (The Message)

Is your Bible in chains?

Is it pleading with you to wipe the dust off and read it?

What will you do with the Word of God?

This series will inspire you to get in God’s Word

and stay in God’s Word!

We have time for one last video to inspire you about the Word!

Video: The Gospel Story Chronological. Get it on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zkOJV95Uq-M

Prayer

Next week will we continue our journey in the Word with Mateam who will be preaching on how to get into the Word and get stuff out of it!