

CERTAIN – SOLA SCRIPTURA

ABOUT THIS SERIES

In our series Certain we'll look at how the certain truths of the Reformation give us a certain hope in uncertain times. Each week will focus on one of the five *Solas* of the Reformation: Sola Scriptura, Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Solus Christus, and Soli Deo Gloria. As we do, we'll show how each concept doesn't just have the power to reform the Church but to also reform our lives!

ITEMS NEEDED

Bibles Pens **Two blank pieces of paper**

CHECKLIST BEFORE YOUR GROUP ARRIVES

Pray for your group Read through the Discussion Guide Refreshments (optional)
 Clean meeting area Clean bathroom Crack front door

OPENING (10-12 MIN)

After a general welcome, say: To get started, let's go in a circle and answer—

TRUE OR FALSE? I READ BOOKS ALL THE TIME. (AUDIBLE COUNTS, TOO.)

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE BOOKWORMS, WHAT'S ONE BOOK YOU LOVE?

After a brief discussion say: Whether or not we would call ourselves avid readers, God invites every one of us to “hide his Word in our heart.” Today we're going to talk about why that matters and how we can do that as we look at the fourth “sola” in our Certain series, *Sola Scriptura*, Scripture Alone.

But first, let's pray!

OPENING PRAYER (1 MIN)

Host, lead the group in prayer.

THE PROMISES OF SCRIPTURE (10-12 MIN)

After the prayer say: On Sunday, the congregation read through about a dozen verses talking about the importance of God's Word. Let's read a few of them and answer two questions:

WHAT DOES THIS SAY SCRIPTURE IS?

WHAT DOES THIS SAY SCRIPTURE DOES?

Host, on the top of a separate piece of paper, write the word IS as a column header. On a separate piece of paper, write the word DOES. Then, write your group's answers under them. If possible, tape it to a wall so everyone can see it.

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

HEBREWS 4:12

ROMANS 10:17

PSALM 119:11

PSALM 119:105

PSALM 19:7-9

THE POINT OF SCRIPTURE (5-7 MIN)

After a discussion, say: The Bible was written over 2,000 years, by 40 authors, on three continents. But Sola Scriptura means, that while Scripture has many points, it has one singular purpose: that we are saved by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. Every page, every line, every word, rings with this singular message. As John writes in the end of his biography of Jesus in John 20:31:

³¹ *But these words are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.*

So let's ask again based on John 20:31 —

WHAT DOES THIS SAY SCRIPTURE IS?

WHAT DOES THIS SAY SCRIPTURE DOES?

Host, once again, write your group's answers on the same pieces of paper.

CLOSING QUESTIONS (5-7 MIN)

A few closing questions for us today.

FIRST, WHICH OF THE THINGS THAT WE SAID SCRIPTURE IS DO YOU MOST-NEED IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW?

NEXT, WHICH OF THE THINGS THAT WE SAID SCRIPTURE DOES DO YOU MOST-NEED IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW?

ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO ADD TO THIS DISCUSSION OF SCRIPTURE ALONE?

After a discussion, say: Sunday's sermon ended with a challenge to find a time and place to read God's Word, with a suggestion to start with the book of Luke.

AS A FINAL QUESTION, WHEN AND WHERE MIGHT YOU BE ABLE TO READ THROUGH LUKE THIS WEEK?

CLOSING PRAYER (5 – 7 MIN)

After a discussion, say: May God continue to help us understand the truth and power of Sola Scriptura so it can reform our lives.

AS WE CLOSE TODAY, DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY PRAYER REQUESTS?

Host, after taking prayer requests, close out the group in prayer.