

AUTHORITY
MATTHEW 7:28-29
12-3-23

Matthew 7:28-29 – “And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching,²⁹ for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.”

I. RESPONSE TO JESUS TEACHING

- 1. Astonishment – Overwhelmed**
- 2. The listeners were moved by Jesus’ teaching**

II. TYPE OF TEACHING

- 1. Authoritative**
- 2. AB Bruce, “Scribes spoke by authority but Jesus spoke with authority”**
- 3. Jesus sets Himself up against the Rabbinical teachers**

III. SOURCE OF THE TEACHING

- 1. The source of authority determines its power**
- 2. Jesus’ source of authority is Himself**

- His authority = He is God

IV. PURPOSE OF THE TEACHING

- 1. Transformation**

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
2. What was one teaching from the Sermon on the Mount that challenged you the most?
3. How have you sought to put these things you have learned into practice in your life as a “doer” of the Word?
4. Since Jesus’ words have divine authority that accompany them...how does that affect the way you approach God’s Word?
5. Imagine that you have a friend who is questioning the validity of God’s Word...how would you help him see the importance of God’s Word?
6. How does the rise in biblical illiteracy impact the authority of God?
7. What are some “other things” that we allow to have authority in our lives?

READ 2 PETER 1:19-21

8. What does this passage teach us about God’s Word?

READ 1 THESSALONIANS 2:13

9. What does this passage teach us about God’s Word?
10. To say that the Bible is authoritative is to say that it holds the final word in our lives. How does knowing this impact the way we live, parent and shepherd the next generation?