FLATIRONS COMMUNITY CHURCH



One Small Step – Week 1
Biblical Authority – Jim Burgen
January 16, 2022

Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation--encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

// Bible References

Hebrews 4:12; Psalm 119:9, 105; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; John 8:31-32; Matthew 7:24-29 and Matthew 5-7 (the Sermon on the Mount).

// Message Summary

This week pastor Jim Burgen launches our first series of 2022 to re-view our Flatirons values. It is great to be reminded of who we are, what we believe, and what we are doing as a community. We learn these truths from God's Word, the Bible; and it is our authority for life. That's why the first of our Flatirons values is Biblical Authority. Pastor Jim introduces what this means and how it serves as a guide for everything we do as individuals and as a community of believers.

// Biblical and Historical Context

The Bible contains historical narratives, poetry, prophecy, and some very practical advice for living. Psalm 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible; nearly every verse praises God's word. Each eight verse section corresponds with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet. This structure is supposed to have helped God's people to learn and memorize this part of scripture.

Four biographies of the life and teachings of Jesus are called "gospels" which means good news. Jesus not only brought people this good news, He was the good news. At Flatirons, we focus on the teachings of Jesus who was described as "the word" (John 1:1) and "the author" (Hebrews 12:2) of our faith (Hebrews 5:9). Jesus shows us how we can be reconnected to God and have the abundant life He created us for in this life – not just the next life. In His Sermon on the Mount Jesus talks plainly about practical matters like love and money, social justice and caring for the poor.

// Community Questions

1. Did you make any New Year Resolutions for 2022? Have you stuck with any of them?

2. What has been your experience with reading the Bible?

// Discussion Questions

1. Is there a passage or Bible story that has been particularly real or memorable to you?
2. Read Hebrews 4:12. What word or phrase stands out to you?
3. How does the word of God become alive?
4. Share a story about a teacher or mentor whose words were influential in your life.
5. How might we put God's word into practice?

// Challenge

Take some time out this week to visualize your life for 2022. Pray for grace and strength to take hold of the better, more abundant life Jesus offers. Think of one small step you can take to incorporate more of God's word into your life. When and where will you start? A verse a day? Yeah, there's an app for that. Or check out Jim's video story on IG (@jimburgen).