

Atlanta Chinese Christian Church North / English Ministries
Discussion questions for the sermon “Can We Trust the Bible?” on February 27, 2011

1. Do you agree or disagree with the following from the ACCCN Statement of Faith: “We believe that the Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are the inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of man, and the divine and final authority for all Christian faith and life.” If you disagree, which part of the statement do you disagree with and why?
2. How confident are you about the trustworthiness of the Bible? Explain your answer.
3. How would you respond to the question “How can we trust the Bible when it is written by men?” How would understanding the inspiration of the Bible (the supernatural process by which God guided the biblical writers to write down exactly what God wanted to tell us; see 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21 and Matthew 5:18) help us address this question?
4. How would you respond to the question “How can we trust the Bible when its content was decided by men?” How would understanding the canonization of the Bible (the process by which the early church recognized the inspired writings of God and confirmed what constitutes the authority of our faith; see Luke 24:24 and 2 Peter 3:15-16) help us address this question?
5. How would you respond to the question “How can we trust the Bible when its content has been changed?” How would understanding the transmission of the Bible (the process by which the Bible was passed down from generation to generation) help us address this question?
6. How would you respond to the question “How can we trust the Bible when there are so many different versions?” How would understanding the translation of the Bible (the effort to render the Bible from its original languages to other languages) help us address this question?
7. What other questions do you have about the Bible? (Write down your questions as a group and submit them to Pastor Jeff and ask him to respond.) Is it possible to trust the Bible and still have questions about the Bible? Explain.

8. What can you do to have more confidence in the Bible this year?
9. Close this discussion with a time of prayer. Pray for those who have questions about the trustworthiness of the Bible; pray that they have their questions answered and that they gain confidence in the Bible. Pray for those who already have confidence in the trustworthiness of the Bible; pray for them to grow in their understanding of the Bible and in their ability to engage people in conversations about the trustworthiness of the Bible.