

# A Pattern for Faith

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2Peter 1:19-21 And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Whether we are aware of it or not, we are constantly forming our belief system (our doctrine) everyday. What are some sources we draw our beliefs from?

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Like putting the boxes together it's good to have a pattern to follow (to see a correct faith already made). Where does 2Peter 1:19-21 suggest we look for this pattern? \_\_\_\_\_

Peter is adamant of the fact that scripture did not originate with \_\_\_\_\_ or with man's \_\_\_\_\_ of prophecy, but by men speaking (and writing) as they were: \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 5:18 I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

In Matthew 5:18 what does Jesus say about "The Law"? \_\_\_\_\_  
What is "The Law"? \_\_\_\_\_

2Ti 1:13 What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus.

⇒ Paul says his teaching can be used as a: \_\_\_\_\_

2Peter 1:16 We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

⇒ Peter asserts that what he say can be trusted because he and the other apostles were: \_\_\_\_\_

Isaiah 30:8 Go now, write it on a tablet for them, inscribe it on a scroll, that for the days to come it may be an everlasting witness.

Do you think God had a good idea when He ordered them to write it down?

Why?

How long is *everlasting*?

*True, forever, trustworthy.*



## **Lesson Plan: A Pattern For Faith**

**The Goal of this lesson:** The goal of this lesson is instill the core belief that The Holy Bible is a **trustworthy** “pattern” for our faith.

**Pre-Lesson Activity:** I brought in cardboard boxes that telephones had come in. They were folded in a complex way to form many different compartments. (I got them from a telephone install company. They were all the same.) I had them all flattened out, gave one to each kid, and offered a prize for the kid who refold their box correctly, the fastest. They struggled with the challenge. Many got the box refolded but not in the right way. Then I offered to let them see one of the boxes that was already folded properly. They were eager to see the “pattern” and then were quickly able to fold their boxes correctly.

**Leading the Lesson:** Spend some time in prayer the day before, going over the verses and questions in your mind.

Have a kid read the first set of verses and then go through the questions for those verses. Give them time to answer. Listen to what they say and lead the discussion with additional questions of your own to lead them to the correct answers.

Note: When reading, kids will frequently stumble on words they do not know. Explain the meaning of the words so they can fully grasp the concept of the Bible verse. Sometimes you must restate the passage in your own words for them to get it.

(If your group is younger junior-high age encourage them to fill in the blanks with the correct answers and hand in their papers at the end of class. For older kids, especially high-school age, just use the questions as discussion starters.)

Note on Matthew 5:18: Jesus is talking about the “Law of Moses” contained in Scriptures they had at that time. While not directly referring to The Holy Bible as we know it today the claim Jesus makes about “the law” staying the same forever can be inferred to all of the Scripture that we have today. For more information on this topic refer to Josh McDowell’s book, [A Ready Defense](#).

For an example of “cleverly invented stories” mentioned in 2 Peter 1:16 visit this web page:

<http://members.aol.com/beyondjw/quikhist.htm> for an eye opening look at how the Jehovah Witness faith was *invented*.

### **Summary:**

Make the connections between the pre-lesson activity and the lesson. 1. Having a pattern to go by makes it way easier to form your own beliefs (doctrine). 2. If you don’t have a trusted pattern you might get some of it wrong. 3. The Bible is our trusted pattern.

### **Take Prayer Requests**

Always ask the kids for prayer requests for the next week. Check how things have turned out from the previous week’s concerns.