

## St Mary's Ferndown

Small Group Study Notes for week commencing 27th Oct 2008

### The Bible (Bible Sunday)

#### Read 2 Timothy 3:10 - 4:5

**Introduction:** It is hoped that this study will be reasonably “light”, rather than becoming too academic and theological, given the subject matter. The sermon on Sunday was on the whole Bible, not just the passage above, with the hope that people will gain an insight into the “big story” which the Bible tells. Spend a few minutes discussing this approach to Bible teaching. Look at **Acts 2: 14-36** and **Acts 7: 2-53** to see similar wide-ranging sermons.

**Exercise:** How well would you say you know your Bible?

*Very well / well / average / a little / hardly at all*

How often do you read the Bible?

*Daily / a few time a week / weekly / occasionally / hardly ever*

In the light of **2 Tim 3: 16 and 17** what would your answers to the exercise say about your maturity as a Christian? At school, children are given a “reading age” to show how they are doing relative to their actual age. What would you think your “reading age” would be, relative to the length of time you’ve been a Christian? Would you be keeping up / falling behind / way ahead(!)?

**Share** as a group some favourite passages, and read a few of them (if not too long). If possible, say why a passage has a special meaning.

**Exercise:** Are there areas of the Bible which are largely “unknown territory”? If so, why is that? Share with the group any areas of scripture you would particularly like to know more about. How might you go about “filling the gaps”?

**Finish** by reading **Psalm 1** together, and perhaps spend a few minutes on personal reflection on **v 2 & 3**. Could you spend more time meditating on God’s word?