

The Very Words of God

Group discussion Questions

As you viewed the ruins of the great Apollo temple at Didyma, what were you thinking? What impressed you? What surprised you?

How would you describe what brought people to Dydima ... for a thousand years? What was their need? What created their sense of wonder and awe when they heard the words they believed came from Apollo? What did an oracle of Apollo mean to them?

Table Questions

1. Jeremiah 23:25-40 describes a type of false oracle.
 - a. What is it about seeking oracles that so greatly offends God? (verses 27-32,36)
 - b. What will God do when prophets invent oracles but claim they are from the True God? (verses 39-40)
2. What was God's warning to his people regarding oracles and other pagan practices before they entered the land of Canaan? (Deuteronomy 18:9-13)
3. Using the same passage in Deut...What did God say would be the results of pagan oracles, such as the oracle of Apollo at Didyma on his people?

How do these results differ from the impact of the Word of God has on people?

What speaks to people today? Does anything like Didyma exist in our world?

Bring it Home

1. Read Matthew 4: 2-10. Notice how easily Jesus uses the Word of God. Notice how powerful the Word of God is and what it accomplishes.
2. How did Jesus know these passages from the Hebrew Bible? What does his knowledge and use of Scripture tell you about how important God's Word was to him?
3. To what extent are you able to connect Scripture texts to the thoughts and conversations of your daily life? Why is it important to be able to do this?

1 John 2:5,6...This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live (Greek: walk) in him must walk as he(Jesus) did.