

# 1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12

### June 14, 2023 Does the Bible really say that?

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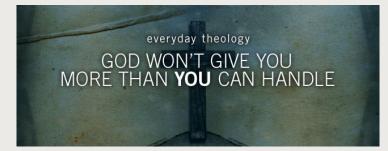
## Foster Care Teens Personal Care Items

We are always collecting "Personal Care Items" for teens in foster care throughout the year. Items for both male and female teens are being collected in the bin just outside our youth room. These items will be sorted into personal bags and given to DCS to be distributed to teens who may not even have their own tooth brush or comb.

This Week's Bible Verse

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Sunday



#### Does the Bible really say that?

A couple of weeks ago, we discussed how common phrases, often attributed to Jesus or the Bible, can be misleading or even harmful when taken out of context. Some Biblical sounding phrases are actually not even in the Bible at all.

We said that over 90% of all American households own at least one Bible yet less than 50% of those have actually read it much less understand it. Even those who attend Church regularly mostly depend on hearing God's Word from the Pastor or from others rather than reading God's Word for themselves.

When we don't read and understand God's Word for ourselves, it makes it very easy for Satan to mislead us and then in turn to use us to mislead others. We recalled that Satan chose Eve to deceive, not because women are easily deceived, but because she had only heard God's command from Adam rather than hearing it from God Himself.

We looked at just a few seemingly harmless common phrases that while sounding scriptural can be very misleading or even harmful to us and to others.

The first thing we noticed about the phrase "God won't



<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is Godbreathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

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give you more than you can handle" is that it's just not true at all. God often leads us to do things that we "can't handle" without Him so that we must lean on Him and give Him the glory. It also helps reinforce our belief that NOTHING is impossible with God.

We briefly talked about people like Gideon, Moses, or Joshua, all who God had led to do something that was impossible for them to do alone but not impossible for them to do with God.

The real problem with this phrase is that it is often used to comfort those who are going through a bad time or just experienced some tragedy. This falsely implies that whatever bad thing is happening was caused by God ("won't give you"). This gives the wrong impression of God, who is always good and would never cause bad things to happen to us.

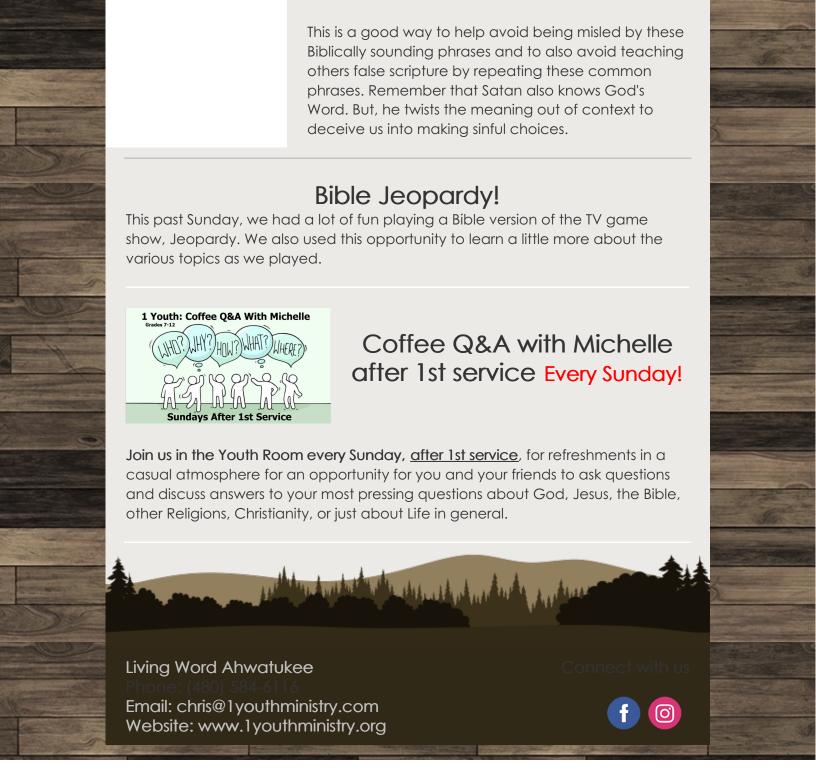
Another problem with this "Biblical sounding" phrase is that it's not even in the Bible at all. God never said it. What He did say (through Paul) can be found in 1 Corinthians 10:13 where Paul is talking to the Church in Corinth about the history of the Jews giving in to various temptations and their results. He is telling them that all will be tempted but they do not have to choose to give in to the temptations with God on their side.

The first thing we noticed about this verse is that while we will be tempted, it is not God who is doing the tempting. We also noticed that God does not keep us from being tempted at all but He will not let us be tempted beyond what we can bear. Finally, when we are tempted, God will always provide us with a way out (it's still always our choice though).

We further discussed a few other false Biblical phrases such as "Money is the root of all evil", "God helps those who help themselves", "God must have needed another angel", and "Jesus said to not judge others".

We said that it's not only important to own a Bible but more important to actually read it and most important to actually understand it.

We were reminded that when we read the Bible that it was not originally written with chapter and verse numbers. So, we should always keep each verse in the context that it was written. We should look at the related verses that are before and after as well as look at who is saying it, when they are saying it, why they are saying it, who they are saying it to, and what is going on at the time they are saying it.



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