Intro:
- Title: Give Me The Bible
  - illus.: hymn, *Give Me the Bible*, vs. 1-2
- How badly do you want the Bible? - attitude toward, if taken away by rouge government, doing with today

The Bible is God's way of communicating to us.
- God only reveals His mind, in His word (Bible).
  - 1 Cor. 2:6-10 only know God’s thoughts (commands) if go to Bible - read, study, learn, know
    - illus.: Russia, Kaluga, people wanted copy of Bible more than anything we had to offer
    - illus. Bible correspondents: "How do I know God is talking to me?" or "How does God talk to us?"
- absolute truth revealed in God’s word (Bible) - religion, morality, life on earth and heaven
  - Bible - Jn. 17:17 (Jesus' prayer for the apostles) word is truth
  - Bible - 2 Tim. 2:15 (command to Timothy) accurately handling word of truth
  - therefore, we must obey God's word (truth, Jesus)
  - 1 Pet. 1:22-23 obedience to the truth, purified your souls, born again, seed
  - Heb. 5:9 obey Jesus, saved — give me the Bible - I want to obey Jesus

God’s word lights our path.
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  - Ps. 119:105, 130 word, lamp, light, understanding — Give Me The Bible, vs. 3 & refrain
    - illus.: Allan, get up in the middle of the night, turn on a light - not trip and fall, stub toe, step on critters
      - cf. God's word - Satan, sin, evil
    - illus.: trip to Indiana, 2003, left the house without the map, begrudgingly turned around to get the map
      - later, glad we got it, would not have made it without the map, at least without wasting a lot of time trying to
        find our way, making a lot of mistakes
      - cf. God's word - get lost, make a lot of mistakes, waste your time and life
    - illus.: Allan, music teacher at band camp - got lost
      - took the high school kids on a late-night hike, to scare them, after telling them scary stories - got lost
      - kept walking, finally bumped into camp counselors, who scared the kids really bad - led us out
      - Pr. 16:25 There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.
      - cf. God's word - light to illuminate the path of life - lost and find way to God - not stumble, fall, get
        hurt, go the wrong way, get lost

Using God’s word to light our path, we walk in the light, saved, pleasing God — Bible — flashlight, map
- purpose of God’s word — Bible
  - Acts 26:18 (Jesus' commission to Paul) - when we must turn to God, we walk in light
- Jesus (Word) is Light — Col. 1:13
  - Jn. 1:1-4 Jesus, Word, life, Light — Bible
  - Jn. 8:12 Jesus Light of the world, follow, not walk in the darkness, have the Light of life (eternal)
  - Jn. 14:6 Jesus, “the way, and the truth, and the life” (definite article) - to Father through Jesus (dia)
    - way (path), truth (true way), life (end of path, trip)
When we walk in the light of God’s word, we are lights to the world!

- **illus.:** moon is a light because illuminated by sun - full moon lights the earth, see at night
  - we are light became illuminated by the Son

- Jesus’ disciples are lights to the world — **illus.:** evangelism, lead family and friends through word

- **Matt. 5:14-16** light of the world, city on a hill not hidden (illus.), lamp on lampstand (illus.), light shine & God glorified

- **Phil. 2:15-16a** lights in the world, holding fast the word of life

- **Christians are sons of the Light**

- **Jn. 12:36** believe in the Light, so that you may become sons of Light

- **1 Th. 5:4-5** you are all sons of light and sons of day, not of night nor of darkness
  - therefore, we expose darkness - not participate in the evil deeds of darkness

- **Eph. 5:7-13** you are Light, walk as children of Light - not participate / expose - exposed by the light

**Summary / Inv.**

- **Summary:** — Give Me The Bible
  - God communicates to us through His word.
  - God’s word lights our path - saved, please Him.
  - When we walk in the light of God’s word, we are lights to the world.

- **Inv.:**
  - we’ll be judged by Jesus, as to whether we walked on the path illuminated by God’s word
    - **2 Cor. 5:7, 10; Jn. 12:47**
  - inv.: if not walking in the light today, you can start — God’s word, Bible