Who Are We and What Do We Believe?

(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Introduction: 1. This past week, we've reached out to a great number of people in our community, some of whom are present today.

2. Because of that, I think it is a good time to tell some who we are and to remind the rest of us.

3. To sum it up, we are disciples of Jesus and a people who are committed to the Bible.

4. Let me explain why from the text above.

I.   All

A.   Not some, but all.

B.   We can't pick and choose which Scripture we are to obey.

C.   (Psalm 119:160).

II.   Scripture

A.   Our focus is on Scripture, not the works of men.

B.   Ills. of a manual – "It is most likely that in the Apostolic age when there was but `one Lord, one faith, and one baptism,' and no differing denominations existed, the baptism of a convert by that very act constituted him a member of the church, and at once endowed him with all the rights and privileges of full membership. In that sense, `baptism was the door into the church.' Now, it is different…"

III.   Inspiration

A.   The Scriptures were not merely written by good men, but they wrote what God told them to write.

B.   (2 Peter 1:21).

IV.   Doctrine

A.   Our teachings should come from the Bible.

B.   If a teaching disagrees with the Bible, it needs to be rejected.

V.   Reproof

A.   The idea behind this word is "conviction."

B.   (Hebrews 11:1).

VI.   Correction

A.   The Bible corrects us when we go astray

B.   (John 12:48).

VII.   Instruction in Righteousness
    A.   The Bible teaches us how to be holy people.
    B.   (Hebrews 12:14).

VIII.   Perfect, Thoroughly Furnished
    A.   All we need is in the Bible.
    B.   We don't need modern revelations.

IX.   Unto Every Good Work
    A.   The instruction for all that God wants us to be and to do is found in the Bible.
    B.   The Bible is all-sufficient.

Conclusion: 1.   Friends, we believe in, reply upon, and follow the Bible.
               2.   That's who we are – A people of the Book.
               3.   Because of that, we also turn to the Bible for an answer as to what we must do to be saved (Acts 2:38).