LET ME challenge YOU toward the BIBLE
** 2012 – CBC's Year of the Bible **
January 1, 2012

A. What is the Bible?

Answer: *God's library of eternal truth in written human words*

- 16 centuries to write (1,500 yrs before Jesus to 100 yrs after)
- 66 books with a total of 929 chapters in the OT; 260 in NT
- 45 human authors f/ various backgrounds (king/tax-collector)
- Written in three languages (Heb, Aram, Gk), covering topics from creation, fall of man, Israel, redemption of man by the cross of Jesus, the Church, and the Kingdom of God.

B. Why do WE need to read from *God's Library*?

- Isaiah 55:8-13

(a) *GOD* . . . holy, transcendent, perfect, powerful, sovereign, self-existent, invisible, eternal, and purposeful Creator Spirit.

(b) *MAN* . . . the created image-bearer of God on earth who rebelled and rejected God and His creative purpose, and who remains frail, arrogant, full of sin, and far from his Creator.

(c) *BIBLE* . . . perfect, powerful, persuasive, persevered, clear authoritative, written Word of God pursuing His fallen image-bearer: Man.

Answer: *From the Bible: (1) God's mind is immediately accessible; (2) God's creation is fully explained; (3) God's redemption is carefully detailed; (4) God's way is perfectly clear.*

C. What does the Bible accomplish in the world of men?

1. Produces spiritual __birth_____ I Pe. 1:22-25; Ro. 10:17
2. Promotes spiritual __maturity_____ Hebrews 5:12-14
3. Promises spiritual __transformation___ II Corinthians 3:12-18

D. What hinders US from knowing God's precious Word?

1. We may *not* be ___saved_____ I Corinthians 2:13-16
2. We may *not* be pure from ___sin_____ Ps. 119:9-11: Jn. 15:3
3. We may *not* clearly _understand_____ Acts 18:24-28
4. We may *not* have been properly ___taught_____ II Peter 3:15-18
5. We may *not* have the right ___motive_____ I Cor. 8:1-3

E. What should WE do about this in 2012?   [see Psalm 119]

- *Plan it – Pray it – Read it – Think it – Speak it – Love it*