



## LESSON 8

*“At Our Savior’s Way Lutheran Church, we value knowing God’s word.”*

### GETTING STARTED:

What is your favorite book of the Bible or favorite Bible verse? Why?

### DIGGING DEEPER:

**Isaiah 55:10-11** *As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.*

**Hebrews 4:12-13** *For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eye of him to whom we must give account.*

**Question:** How would you describe the power and authority of God’s word?

**Question;** Have you ever heard a sermon or read a devotion or the Bible and felt God was talking to you? What did you hear God say?

**Question:** What does it mean that God’s word is living and active and will achieve His purpose in us?

Martin Luther talked about the importance of the Word of God in His explanation of the third commandment in the Small Catechism. “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.” What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.”

**Question:** What does it mean to hold the Word of God sacred? What actions are visible in our life that show we value God’s word?

God does not work faith in a vacuum. We are not mysteriously sapped with faith nor is faith an accident. God creates faith in us through the means of His Word and the sacraments of baptism and holy communion, the visible forms of His Word. As we read the gospel or hear it preached, we are assured of God's love and forgiveness and His gift of eternal life. And when we are baptized or take holy communion, this same gospel is made more certain, "This is my body and my blood given and shed for you." God speaks His grace and mercy personally to us.

**Question:** Read the following Bible passages and list the benefits from hearing/learning God's Word.

**John 8:31-32** *To the Jew who have believed in him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

**Romans 10:17** *Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.*

**Ephesians 6:16-17** *In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.*

**Colossians 3:16** *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.*

**Luke 11:28** *He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it."*

List the Benefits of Hearing God's Word and Keeping it:

**APPLICATION:**

**2 Peter 1:20-21** *Above all, you must understand that no prophesy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

**I Thessalonians 2:13** *And we also thank God continually because when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.*

**Question:** We should hold preaching and the Word of God sacred and gladly hear and learn it, and meditate on it. How would you rate your daily participation in God's Word?

Low    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10    High

**CHALLENGE:**

Make a commitment to have a daily time to be in God's Word and give God the opportunity to strengthen your faith and guide your life.