

Theme: To glorify God and enjoy Him forever, we must let the Word dwell in us richly as we hear, read, study, memorize, and meditate on God's Word.

I. Intro – Overwhelmed by Resolutions

- A. Many people just made New Years resolutions
- B. Often big and grand schemes to do something
- C. Reading Scripture is popular one for believers
- D. Start well - then hit Leviticus, Numbers
- E. How do we get into Word - and let it dwell in us

II. Getting A Grip on God's Word - Hand

- A. The call - let Word dwell richly (Col 3:16)
 - 1. Not just read - dwell!
 - 2. Not dwell in poverty - richly!
 - 3. How do we do this?
- B. The hand illustration by Navigators
 - 1. A good overview of getting grip on Word
 - 2. I have done this for years - great tool
 - 3. This will let the Word dwell richly in us
 - 4. Devin will help me illustrate this
- C. Five parts of getting a grip on the Word
 - 1. Hear - the pinky
 - a. Rom 10:17 - faith from hearing word

- b. Luke 11:28 - blessed if hear and obey
- c. 1 Tim 4:13 - public reading (they hear)
- d. Note difference of hearing something
- e. Do this every Sunday; use CD's

2. Read - ring finger

- a. Rev 1:3 - blessed to read, take to heart
- b. Deut 17:19 - King must read every day
- c. Reading penetrates a little more
- d. Especially important as a younger believer

3. Study - middle finger

- a. Acts 17:11 - noble to examine every day
- b. Proverbs 2:1-6 - search, cry out - intense
- c. This requires a LOT more effort
- d. Study with sermons, catechism, books

4. Memorize - index finger

- a. Psalm 119:9-11 - hide Word in heart
- b. Psalm 119:13 - recite all - memorized!
- c. Requires effort - but worth it!!!
- d. Write on cards, carry around, review
- e. One of the biggest blessings in my walk

5. Meditate - the thumb - brings all together

- a. Psalm 1:2-3 - meditate day and night
- b. Joshua 1:8 - meditate day and night
- c. Psalm 119:97 - love it; all day long!
- d. Used with and in all other methods
- e. Not eastern mantra - mutter to self; think deeply

D. Dwelling richly; a firm grip; Word planted deeply

- 1. Satan wants to pull Word out of us (Devin try)
- 2. It must dwell richly; be planted deeply in us

III. Applying the Word

A. Is the Word dwelling richly in us?

- 1. Am I soaking in all five of these ways?
- 2. Which one do the most and best?
- 3. Which one am I weakest at?
- 4. Encouragement to grow in each of these
- 5. Warning not to despise small beginnings!

B. Encouragement - God wants to give Himself to us

- 1. This is the point of letting Word dwell richly
- 2. Not just esoteric knowledge - know God!
- 3. He will meet you in Word as you do these five

C. Communion - God gives Himself to us!

- 1. God gives Himself to us in Sacrament along w/ Word

2. Not ritual - come in faith to let God minister

Letting the Word Dwell in You Richly

Colossians 3:16
 Psalm 119:9-16
 January 17, 2010
 Communion
 Deuteronomy 1:11

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

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

Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. 1 Timothy 4:13

Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near. Revelation 1:3

It is to be with him, and he is to read it all the days of his life so that he may learn to revere the LORD his God and follow carefully all the words of this law and these decrees Deuteronomy 17:19

Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. Acts 17:11

My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, 2 turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, 3 and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, 4 and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, 5 then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. 6 For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 2:1-6

How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. 10 I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. 11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Psalm 119:9-11

With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth. Ps 119:13

But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. 3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers. Ps 1:2-3

Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Joshua 1:8

Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. Psalm 119:97