

**Date: February 9, 2020**

**Sermon Title: Why We Earnestly Teach the Bible**

**Speaker: Richard Smith**

**Scripture text(s): Hebrews 4:12-13**

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- 1) Richard shared Martin Luther's quote--"I simply taught, preached, and wrote God's Word: otherwise I did nothing...the Word did it all." Share an experience you've had that is similar to Luther's.
- 2) Read Hebrews 4:12-13. What does it mean that the Word is "living"? How has this impacted your life?
- 3) From Hebrews 4:12, the word "active" comes from the Greek word "energes" which is where our word "energy" comes from. Why is this significant in terms of the Bible?
- 4) Read Psalm 119:97. How should we read the Bible? What role does meditation play in your life? How does meditation on the Bible change you and draw you closer to the Lord?
- 5) Read John 5:39-40. Who do the scriptures point to? How can we read to see Jesus?
- 6) "The more you meditate on something the more you love it" and "what you meditate on reveals what you love." Apply this litmus test to your life. Discuss how this manifests itself. How can we move to a deeper meditation on God in order to love Him more?
- 7) How does meditating on scripture impact your prayer life?
- 8) From Hebrews 4:12, the word "penetrate" comes from a Greek word meaning "to cut with a single chop." How does this work in our lives?
- 9) Share times in your life when the scriptures have transformed you.
- 10) Richard talked about how rules are for our safety. Discuss how rules in everyday life protect us and then how God's Word provides rules for our protection. How does the absence of rules affect our lives?
- 11) Richard pointed out that Adam and Eve went after everything but ended up with nothing because they went outside the boundaries. Read Psalm 19:7-11. Compare and contrast Adam and Eve's response to God's boundaries and God's reason for boundaries. What does God's law bring to us?
- 12) Read Hebrews 4:13. God's Word is unavoidable. How does our culture try to avoid God?

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13) Read Revelation 19:11-13, 15 and John 12:12-15. How does Jesus have the final word?