

SERIES	COME ALIVE
BIBLE	Ezekiel 2-3
TITLE/TOPIC	The Word of the Lord!
OVERVIEW	<p>In our world people are becoming more and more skeptical about the words they listen to. Who can you trust? What source is telling the truth? What am I supposed to listen to?</p> <p>The words we live by has large ramifications on how we establish our lives. So the obvious question is, what words are we living by? Well as we enter the New Year, as we take 21 Days to turn our attention to God, we are cultivating space to live by HIS WORD!</p>
SCRIPTURE BREAKDOWN	<p>INTRO:</p> <p>ILL – “Reading” (glancing) at directions vs READING the directions! A time when you didn’t read all the steps in directions and missed a key detail.</p> <p>Ezek. 1:3 “The WORD of the Lord came to Ezekiel the priest...”</p> <p>82 times the Hebrew word <i>da-bar</i> (word) is used throughout the book of Ezekiel. The main repetition is the WORD of the Lord coming to Ezekiel. Ezekiel is a book that illustrates the vitality of hearing the word of God!</p> <p>Eugene Peterson “WORDS – spoken and listened to, written and read – are intended to do something in us, give health and wholeness, vitality and holiness, wisdom and hope.”</p> <p>1. Receive the Word</p> <p>Ezek. 2:1-2 “And he said to me, “Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you.” ²And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.”</p> <p>Are you cultivating a life that is open to receive God’s word?</p> <p>Ezek. 3:10 “Moreover, he said to me, “Son of man, all my words that I shall speak to you <u>receive</u> in your heart, and hear with your ears.”</p> <p>Not just engaging with but living from the words.</p> <p>2. Speak the Word</p>

Ezek. 2:3-7

³ And he said to me, “Son of man, I **send** you to the people of Israel, to nations of **rebels**, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴ The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I **send** you to them, and you shall **SAY** to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God.’ ⁵ And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them. ⁶ And you, son of man, be not afraid of them, nor be afraid of their words, though briars and thorns are with you and you **sit** on scorpions. Be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house. ⁷ And you shall speak my words to them, whether they hear or refuse to hear, for they are a rebellious house.”

The call to receive is followed by the command to speak.

The words are to be received so they can be lived out!

3. Eat the Word

Ezek. 2:8-3:3

““But you, son of man, **hear** what I **say** to you. Be not rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I **give** you.” ⁹ And when I looked, behold, a hand was stretched out to me, and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. ¹⁰ And he spread it before me. And it had writing on the front and on the back, and there were written on it words of lamentation and mourning and woe.

3 And he said to me, “Son of man, **eat** whatever you find here. **Eat** this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel.” ² So I opened my mouth, and he gave me this scroll to eat.

³ And he said to me, “Son of man, feed your belly with this scroll that I **give** you and fill your stomach with it.” Then I **ate** it, and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey.”

The call to receive and speak is followed with the summons to EAT!

Psalms 19:10

“More to be desired are they (words) than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than **honey**
and drippings of the honeycomb.”

Psalms 119:103

“How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than **honey** to my mouth!”

During our season of prayer and fasting, we aren't just not eating food, we are replacing that time and nourishment with God's word and presence.

Eugene Peterson

“Eating a book takes it all in, assimilating it into the tissues of our lives. Readers become what they read. If Holy Scripture is to be something other than mere gossip about God, it must be internalized.”

	<p>The rest of Ezekiel is about how the people didn't receive the word but were led by the words of many other sources.</p> <p>Are you putting in specific guidelines to receive, speak, and eat the word of God!</p>
GOSPEL	<p>How does this sermon bring people to the Gospel?</p> <p>John 1:1-4</p> <p>"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men."</p> <p>John 1:14</p> <p>"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."</p> <p>Jesus is the living word that guides us to fully live into this life.</p>
NEXTSTEPS	<p>Begin Connect Engage Grow Disciple</p> <p>Begin -</p> <p>Connect -</p> <p>Grow -</p> <p>Disciple -</p>