

Plunging Into the Word of God

By Alice Schuman



Opening Hymn: “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” [LSB 655; LW 334; TLH 261]

Opening Prayer: Holy Spirit, please guide us as we read, think, pray, and discuss together how devoting ourselves to Your precious Word can form and direct us in the Way of our Lord Jesus Christ. In His Name, Amen.

In **Colossians 3:16**, St. Paul writes, “Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly.” If the Word of Christ engages our minds and hearts, it will influence what we think and say and do.

What significance do you see in Paul calling Scripture “the Word of Christ”?

READ

Read Isaiah 55:8–11. What is the Lord’s promise about the results of exposing ourselves to His Word? What do you think the Lord might wish to accomplish in your life, right now or in the future?

Reading the Word of Christ must be a planned persistent priority in our lives.

Working together with a partner or two, discuss this question: What kind of plan for reading the Bible do you think will work for you? Be specific.

REFLECT AND WRITE

Another way to let the Word of Christ get under our skins and into our hearts is to think about what we read and to write about it. In the coming months, consider keeping a journal of your reactions to and reflections about what you read in the Word of Christ.

Read Jeremiah 23:29 and Hebrews 4:12–13. What attitudes or prejudices or biases does the Lord need to destroy in your thinking? What are some areas

where the Lord might want to change your way of looking at something?

PRAY

Making the prayers found in Scripture our own is a way to pray that connects us to Him and to our brothers and sisters of long ago. Use the Word of God as a prayer pointer that leads you to thanksgiving and repentance.

Read Ephesians 6:10–18. How can the Word of God direct our prayers?

TALK

Read Colossians 3:15–17.

What are some ways of talking about God that you have tried? Share your experiences with your group. What are some other ways you might try?

WALK

In **2 Timothy 3:16**, St. Paul advises, “All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”

This verse flows from the thought of the previous verses (**2 Timothy 3:14–15**), which point us to the main purpose of the Word of Christ. What is that main purpose?

Read James 1:22. What messages in the Word of God are hard for you to put into practice?

Closing Hymn:

“O Word of God Incarnate” [LSB 523; LW 335; TLH 294]

Close with the Lord’s Prayer.

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Two music downloads!

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