

# ***“THE TREASURE OF GOD’S WORD”***

## ***True Riches #4***

### **INTRODUCTION**

In our sermon series “True Riches” we are discovering the treasures of living in Christ. For those who follow Jesus, the word of God is certainly one of the greatest treasures ever given. In it God has revealed Himself to us; giving us direction, correction and provision. In the Bible we find many images used to describe God’s word. As we study some of those images we will begin to understand the unique treasure God’s word is to us.

### **Ice Breaker (Optional—8 min)**

How long have you owned your favorite bible?

### **STUDY QUESTIONS (45 MIN)**

#### **God’s Word is Vital to Your Spiritual Life**

##### **Q1. Read Deuteronomy 8:3, Matthew 4:4, Jeremiah 15:16**

There are many things we can live without, but without food and water we will perish. Similarly, God’s word is food for our souls. In Deuteronomy 8:3 Moses explained to the Israelites what God wanted them to know when He sent the bread from heaven to be their provision. What is that important truth, which was also quoted by Jesus in Matthew 4:4? Following the same idea that God’s word feeds us, what was the result of Jeremiah feeding upon God’s word? (Jeremiah 15:16) What has been your experience when you have been without God’s word for an extended period of time?

##### **Q2. Read Isaiah 55:11**

California is in the 4th year of a drought, and we have a heightened sense of how precious rain can be. Share with the group how you felt during the recent thunderstorms that dropped buckets of water across our parched landscape? In the days following that storm we saw the hillsides turn green again. How does God use the image of rain to encourage us through His word? (Isaiah 55:10-11) What are some of the ways you have seen God’s word achieve His purposes in your life?

#### **God’s Word Directs Us**

##### **Q3. Read James 1:23-25, Psalm 119:105**

The study of God’s word has a purpose: God intended for it to be applied to our lives. In James 1:23 we are told that the one who gazes into God’s perfect law of liberty has two choices. What are the two ways we can respond when we read God’s word? If we persevere in following God’s word

we will receive blessing. Is there a special verse in scripture that has been a “light for your path”, and a blessing in your life?

#### **God’s Word Corrects Us**

##### **Q4. Read Hebrews 4:12, Ephesians 6:17, James 4:3, Jeremiah 5:14, Jeremiah 23:29**

God’s word is referred to as the sword of the spirit. Who is wielding that weapon in Hebrews 4:12? in Ephesians 6:17? God uses His word to correct us, revealing the heart that underlies our actions. For example, how might James 4:3 judge the attitude of the heart? A sword can be dangerous when it isn’t handled properly. Perhaps you have witnessed God’s word being mishandled in a way that caused damage. When the priests had misused His Word and misrepresented God, He used the prophet Jeremiah to exact judgment. (Jeremiah 5:14, Jeremiah 23:29) To what did He compare the force of His corrective word? What are some situations we need to exercise particular caution in applying the word of God?

### **WRAP-UP**

God has entrusted us with the precious treasure of His word. It is our spiritual food and accomplishes God’s purpose in our lives. The word of God instructs and directs us, blessing us when we choose to persevere in applying it. And when we need correction, God’s word acts like a sword, revealing the thoughts and attitudes of our heart. We must recognize and respect the power of God’s word, using it carefully to bring glory to God.

### **Memory Verse**

*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*

*Psalm 119:105 ESV*

### **PRAYER (20 MIN)**

Ask your group to pray for you regarding one area where you can apply this study in your life:\_\_\_\_\_

Pray for your group members’ needs: (see back for more space)\_\_\_\_\_

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### **Challenge**

*Do not let a single day go by this week without feasting on your “spiritual food”. Allow adequate time to savor and enjoy it as you would a fine meal. Seek God through his word for direction, correction and blessing.*

**Q1**

Deuteronomy 8:3 ESV - 3 And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

Matthew 4:4 ESV - 4 But he answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

Jeremiah 15:16 ESV - 16 Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

**Q2**

Isaiah 55:10-11 ESV - 10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

### Q3

Read James 1:23-25 in your Bible

Psalm 119:105 ESV - 105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

## Q4

Hebrews 4:12 ESV - 12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

James 4:3 NIV - 3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

Ephesians 6:17 ESV - 17 and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,

Jeremiah 5:14 ESV - 14 Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of hosts:  
"Because you have spoken this word, behold, I am making my words in your  
mouth a fire, and this people wood, and the fire shall consume them.

Jeremiah 23:29 ESV - 29 Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?

**Prayer requests con't** \_\_\_\_\_

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