

“The Union of the Word and the Spirit”

The Ministry of the Word (pt. 5)

February 2, 2025

Pastor Keith is taking us a year’s journey that is emphasizing the ministry of the Word of God and It’s impact in our lives>>

This morning we are continuing our journey by speaking about the relationship between the Word of God and the Spirit of God>>

In **Heb. 4:12** and **Rom. 1:16** we are told that the *...Word of God is **living and active** and ...is the **power** of God unto salvation...>>*

*But if the Word is **living** and **active** and **powerful**, why do so many seem to be unaffected by It>>*

Because *...[we] were dead in our trespasses and sin...>>***Eph. 2:1**

*...a [spiritually dead] man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised...>>***1 Cor 2:14**

Then one day the Word became alive to us>>

What happened>>

The Holy Spirit caused the Word to become alive to us>>

Without the ministry of the Spirit, our Bible remains a **closed Book**>>

In **John 4:24**, Jesus explained that all *...who worship [God] **must** worship in **Spirit** and **Truth**...>>*

This means that THE SPIRIT OF GOD USES THE WORD OF GOD TO ACCOMPLISH THE WILL OF GOD>>

Every time we read our Bible, we are not just reading a Book>>

The Holy Spirit is causing the written Words to become the living voice of Jesus>>

Let's take a few minutes to remember how the Spirit causes the written Word to become the living voice of Jesus>>

When we really heard the Gospel for the first time what happened>>

<<that written Word became the living voice of Jesus>>

<<we suddenly understood and believed the Gospel>>

1 Peter 1:23 ...[we were] been born again... through the **living** and enduring Word of God...

What happened to us is the same thing that happened on the Day of Pentecost>>

1 Peter 1:23 when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart...>>**Acts 2:37**

Ez.36:26-27 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 "I will put My Spirit within you...>>

When we heard the Word, the Spirit in us caused the Word to penetrate our hearts so we would believe the Word>>

In **John 14-17**, Jesus explains several ways the Spirit ministers to us through the Word>>

John 14:26 ...the Helper, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you...>>

John 15:26 ...when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of Truth Who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me...>>

John 16:13 ...when...the Spirit of Truth, comes, He will guide you into all the Truth...>>

John 17:17 ...Sanctify them in the Truth; Your Word is Truth.

I want us to witness the interconnection of the Word and the Spirit by reading **Ez. 37:1-10**

The Lord gave Ezekiel this Word to encourage the exiled Israelites that the Lord promised to deliver and restore them as His people>>

In **v.1-6**, the Lord tells Ezekiel to speak the Word to the dry bones>>

*The hand of the Lord was upon me, and He brought me out by the **Spirit** of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; and it was full of bones. 2 He caused me to pass among them round about, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley; and lo, they were **very dry**. 3 He **said** to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, You know." 4 Again He **said** to me, "Prophecy over these bones and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the Word of the Lord.' 5 "Thus **says** the Lord God to these bones, 'Behold, I will cause **breath** to enter you that you may come to life. 6 'I will put sinews on you, make flesh grow back on you, cover you with skin and put **breath** [ruah] in you that you may come alive...>>*

Then in **v.7-10** we see that the Spirit uses the Word to give life to the bones and then to assemble them into God's army>>

*7 So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold, a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8 And I looked, and behold, sinews were on them, and flesh grew and skin covered them; but there was no breath in them. 9 Then He said to me, "Prophecy to the **breath**, prophesy, son of man, and **say** to the **breath**, 'Thus **says** the Lord God, "Come from the four winds, O **breath**, and **breathe** on these slain, that they come to life.'"" 10 So I **prophesied** as He commanded me, and the **breath** came into them, and they came to life and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.*

I want to conclude by reading **2 Tim 3:16-17**>>

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work...>>

Let's ask how is God's Word ...*profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness...*>>

I believe the purpose of God this morning is simple:

We come to our Bibles we are coming to our most faithful and trusted Teacher and Counselor>

<<to Jesus Himself>

The Bible is not just a Book>>

It is the very living and active Voice of the Lord Jesus speaking to us through the Spirit Who lives in us>>