

GOD'S WORD IS A MESSAGE TO DISCUSS AND DECLARE

YEAR: TRANSFORM / FOCUS: I AM GROWING
SERIES: GOD IS THE TEACHER - I AM A STUDENT

BIG TRUTH: GOD'S WORD IS A MESSAGE TO DISCUSS AND DECLARE

2 Timothy 4; James 1:19-25; Acts 4:20; Romans 10:11-15; Jeremiah 20:9

BIBLE VERSE: DEUTERONOMY 6:7

"You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

BIG IDEAS

- God's Word must be heard to be understood.
- We love God more when His Word enters into and shapes everyday conversations and actions.
- The gospel is good news that must not only be digested, but declared.

BIBLE PASSAGE: DEUTERONOMY 6:4-7

TRANSFORM - I AM GROWING

The Transform Year is an exploration of what it means to become a "new creation" in Jesus. (2 Corinthians 5:17) In order for this to happen, we must first find our identity in Him. Many of us live in a consistent state of identity crises. We wrestle with questions like who am I, where do I belong, why do I exist? The answer to these questions is found in Jesus. Our prayer for this semester is that like the Apostle Paul we would be able to say, "I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." (Galatians 2:20).

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know that...

- God is the teacher; wisdom and truth come from Him alone.
- Our understanding is limited, broken, and jaded by sin.



Every student should feel...

- Wonder and awe that God has chosen to make Himself known to sinners like us through His Word.
- Overwhelmed by your need for God's wisdom and knowledge found in His Word.



Every student should strive to...

- Use the workouts consistently as a tool to help you grow in your study of God's Word.
- Start a Bible reading plan with a friend or mentor.
- Start memorizing and meditating on the Bible Verse from your workouts.



Every student should ask God to...

- Give you a hunger for the Word.
- Give you perseverance to press on in your pursuit of Him.
- Cultivate heart of humility by helping you see your need for His Word.

GUIDES AND WORKOUTS

The Guide provides a commentary page on each week's Bible verse and on each Big Idea that unpacks the Big Truth. Each week also includes a Student Workout as a resource to help the student pursue spiritual disciplines on their own. Additionally, each week has a Family Workout that helps equip parents and guardians to have spiritual conversations with their student.



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GOD'S WORD IS A MESSAGE TO
DISCUSS AND DECLARE**BIBLE VERSE: DEUTERONOMY 6:7**

"You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

God's Word is meant to be a part of our daily lives.

"You shall teach them diligently to your children..."

- Diligently teaching the Word of God requires us to be intentional in incorporating God's Word into every part of our daily lives. In order to teach the Word to someone else, we must first understand it ourselves. As we study and meditate on God's Word, we will grow in our understanding and then be able to teach others.
- God's Word is meant to be on our minds and a part of our conversations. God gave us His Word as a gift to help us grow to be like Him and to guide our lives. In order for the Word to be a part of our daily lives, we must saturate ourselves with it. When we do this, it will shape every part of our day.

God's Word is meant to be taught at home.

"You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house..."

- God's Word is pivotal to our Christian walk. As we learn from it, we are supposed to teach others. Our instruction of others in the Word of God should happen at home first. God commands parents to teach their children His Word.
- Teaching God's Word at home means making it the lens through which we look at everything. When we do this, we will talk about God's Word and it will impact every part of our lives. Children will learn from us as we model obedience to it and also teach them God's commands. As children, we should listen with eager ears and hearts and engage with our parents as they teach us God's Word at home.

God's Word is meant to be a part of every relationship a believer has.

"and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

- We are all connected to one another and it is impossible to grow in our walk with Christ and not talk about Him. When we talk about Him, we will talk about God's Word because that is how we learn about Him.
- God gave us His Word to discuss with the people in our lives. Through discussion, we encourage and edify one another. We live as the body of Christ when we talk about His Word with one another.

GOD'S WORD IS A MESSAGE TO
DISCUSS AND DECLARE**BIG IDEA #1: GOD'S WORD MUST BE HEARD TO BE UNDERSTOOD.¹****[THIS]**

In the beginning, God's Word was passed down orally from one generation to the next. At first God's Word was read out loud to the nation of Israel. We see this truth in Deuteronomy 6:4, when the command to "hear", or listen is given to God's people. In order for God's Word to be understood, it must be heard. When we hear His Word, we are hearing God's truth, and it is powerful and mighty to change our lives. When God's people would hear His Word read aloud to them, it would change their lives as He worked inside of them to lead them to obedience and teach them how to live for Him. Reading the Word is more than just a part of a worship service or a tradition. It is the very Words of God being read aloud over His people.

[THEREFORE]

Read Deuteronomy 6:4. Who is someone that God has used to influence you through the reading and teaching of God's Word?

In Luke 11:28, Jesus reminds us of the blessing that comes from hearing and keeping the Word of God. Hebrews 4:12 teaches us that God's Word is living and active. When we hear the Word read aloud, it has the power to change our lives. James 1:19 shows us the importance of being quick to hear, not just others, but when God's Word is read aloud because it has the power to influence and transform our lives.

[THIS]

In Deuteronomy 6:4, God's people are commanded to first listen, and then they are given truth to apply to their lives. Hearing God's Word is more than hearing sounds made into words. Truly hearing God's Word is to have it penetrate our hearts, resulting in transformed lives. In order to really hear God's Word, our hearts must be open to it. When we submit our hearts to God, we will truly hear His Word as it applies to us. Hearing God's Word does mean listening to it as it's read aloud and it also means listening to it with our hearts as we read it ourselves silently. It can be easy to listen to God's Word, but not listen to it with our hearts open to be transformed by it. Regardless of how we hear God's Word, we must hear it with our hearts and apply it to our lives.

[THEREFORE]

What is the difference between hearing God's Word with only our ears and hearing it with our ears and hearts?

Hearing God's Word with our hearts means we are moved by it and recognize it as His Word. John 10:27 teaches that God's children recognize His voice when they hear it and they follow Him. John 6:63 shows us that hearing God's Word with our ears and hearts gives us life. Psalm 85:8 teaches us that truly hearing God's Word gives us peace and keeps us from turning back to our folly.

What are some things that keep you from really hearing God's Word?

Galatians 5:16-17 shows us that our flesh can distract us from following Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:5 teaches us the value of taking our thoughts captive and how doing that can help us understand and grow in our knowledge of God. When we do this, we can truly hear God's Word.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4: God commands His people first to hear His commands.

GOD'S WORD IS A MESSAGE TO
DISCUSS AND DECLARE**BIG IDEA #2: WE LOVE GOD MORE WHEN HIS WORD ENTERS INTO AND SHAPES EVERYDAY CONVERSATIONS AND ACTIONS.²****[THIS]**

Deuteronomy 6:7 teaches us what it looks like to hear God's Word and have it penetrate our heart. In this verse, we see the command to teach God's Word diligently in every area of our lives. As we immerse ourselves in God's Word, we will love Him more and more. His Word will shape our conversations and daily decisions. We will obey His Word out of our love for Him as we grow in our knowledge of who He is and what He has done for us. We will not find His commands burdensome, but instead will find joy in obeying Him. Our lives will reflect the truth of His Word in our hearts.

[THEREFORE]**How has your love for God grown as His Word has saturated your life?**

In Jeremiah 15:16, we see that God's Word results in a delight and joy for Him and His commands. We also see this in Job 23:12, when Job treasures God's Words more than his food. In Psalm 119:11 and 127, we see that God's Word brings great love and delight for Him. As we grow in our knowledge of His Word, our love for Him will grow. Our words will reflect our love for Him and our knowledge of Him and His Word. We will hide His Word in our hearts and talk about it in our daily lives. His Word will shape our thoughts and conversations as we grow in our understanding of God.

How has God's Word shaped your thoughts and daily conversations?

In James 1:21, James teaches that God's people should put away filthiness and wickedness and replace it with the Word of God. When we grow in our knowledge of God's Word, our conversations and thoughts will be shaped by His Word. Colossians 2:6-7 teaches us that as God's Word enters our hearts, we will overflow with thanksgiving. Lastly, Ephesians 4:15 shows us that a maturity in God's Word will lead to our speaking the truth in love and continuing to grow.

[THIS]

God gave us His Word to equip us and teach us about Himself. As we grow in our knowledge of God's Word, our love for Him grows. Not only will our conversations be shaped by Him, but our actions will as well. We will live out Deuteronomy 6:7. We will teach His commands through our actions. We will share Him with others and will teach our children about Him and what He commands in His Word. We will obey His Word out of our love for Him as we grow in our knowledge of who He is and what He has done for us. We will not find His commands burdensome, but instead will find joy in obeying Him. Our lives will reflect the truth of His Word in our hearts.

[THEREFORE]**What keeps you from making God's Word a greater priority in your life?**

Galatians 5:16-17 shows us that when we walk by God's Spirit, we will not follow our flesh. When we are following God's Spirit, we will make His Word a priority in our lives. James 4:4 reminds us of the foolishness in loving the world and trying to love God. We cannot do both.

2. Deuteronomy 6:7: We should discuss and teach God's Word always and in every part of our day.

GOD'S WORD IS A MESSAGE TO
DISCUSS AND DECLARE**BIG IDEA #3: THE GOSPEL IS GOOD NEWS THAT MUST NOT ONLY BE DIGESTED, BUT DECLARED.³****[THIS]**

God's Word is given for His people. He gave us His Word that we might read it, study it, and apply it to our lives. Deuteronomy 6:5-6 shows us just how much the Word of God should be a part of our everyday lives. We are to know it so well that it influences every aspect of our lives. It is not just for us to ingest though. As we take it in, we must share it with others. Our lives will reveal and reflect just how much we have feasted on God's Word. As it penetrates our lives, we will want to share it with others and share His good news with others. It is in God's Word that the gospel is revealed and as we take it in, it saturates our hearts and lives, changing them for God's glory. This change in our own hearts will result in our taking it to others.

[THEREFORE]**What are some characteristics of a life that has been transformed by the gospel?**

In Colossians 3:5-10, Paul lists the works of our flesh. When we are made new through Christ, we can put off these things and walk in the Spirit of God. Ezekiel 11:19-20 shows us that those who are in Christ have new hearts that are reconciled to God. Galatians 5:22-23 shows us what a life that is transformed by Christ looks like.

How does your life reveal that the gospel has saturated your life?

Psalms 96:3 shows us a heart that has been saturated by the gospel is a heart that declares God's majesty to the world. 1 Peter 3:15 teaches us to be prepared to tell others about the gospel and the ways it has changed us. Lastly Ephesians 5:1-2 teaches us that His people are fragrant offerings to Him when our lives are saturated with His gospel.

[THIS]

God gives us His Word to equip us to carry His gospel to the world. God's Word is meant to be hidden in our hearts and declared to others. God uses His people as His ambassadors. He gives His people a purpose. They are to share His Word and truth with others. Believers are to declare the truth of the gospel with the lost and dying world. God chooses to use His redeemed people as His mouthpiece to reveal His plan of salvation to the world. As we digest the gospel, He will use us to share the truths that He reveals to us through His Word to others who do not yet know Him.

[THEREFORE]**How does the Word equip us to be God's ambassadors?**

2 Timothy 3:16-17 tells us that God's word is active and profitable to His people. His Word enables us to gain knowledge that we might share His truth with others. Hebrews 4:12 teaches us that God's Word works in our hearts and teaches us His ways.

Why is sharing God's Word with others the best thing we can do for them?

Matthew 28:19 tells us that God's people are to carry His Word to the world. Proverbs 24:11 shows us the importance of sharing the gospel with others in order to share the way to eternal life.

3. Deuteronomy 6:5-6: God's people love Him and His Word with all of their being and they share Him with others.