**How to Eat a Sermon**

**Week 8 : The Life Giving Power of Preaching**

**A vision for what preaching can do for the people of God**

**Appetizer:**

When you are hungry, what type of food is most satisfying to you? What happens when you get “hangry” (angry, irritable from being hungry)?

**Main Course:**

1. Read Ezekiel 37:1-14. Which of the following do you think God was looking for when He asked Ezekiel, “Can these bones live?”,
   1. God wanted Ezekiel to agree with Him
   2. God was testing Ezekiel’s faith
   3. God was challenging Ezekiel to think
   4. God was asking for Ezekiel’s cooperation
   5. Something else
2. In 2 Timothy 3: 16, we are told that Scripture is God-breathed. What does God’s breath do here?
3. When you are faced with a hopeless situation, what brings you hope?
4. What are some fair expectations to expect of a preacher and their sermon?
5. Can you remember a sermon you heard that was particularly meaningful to you? What made it so: your life circumstances, the ability of the preacher, the significance of the Scripture, the presence of the Holy Spirit…?
6. What can you do to prepare yourself for a sermon to sink in?

To-Go Bag: Do one of these application activities if you are able.

Pray – Pray for your pastor. Ask God to use your pastor to deliver God’s message well. Ask God to prepare your heart to hear it. Ask God to be powerful and effective in the lives of His people.

Thank – Write a thank you note to someone who taught you about Jesus (a parent, a grandparent, a Sunday School teacher, a small group leader, a camp counselor, a youth pastor/sponsor, a pastor, a mentor…)

Invite – Invite someone to come to church with you. Pray, asking God’s Holy Spirit to move in their lives.

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