**How to Eat a Sermon Small Group Bible Study**

**Week 1: Getting Hungry**

**Preaching is one of the ways God feeds us the bread of His Word.**

**Appetizer:**

What is the longest amount of time you have gone without eating? Was this something that you chose or something that was beyond your control? What was is like when you were able to eat again?

**Main Course:**

1. What are some common reactions to the word “preaching”? Does preaching carry positive or negative baggage for you? Why or why not?

1. Read Amos 8:11-14. What are some of the implications of a “famine of hearing the words of the Lord”? In your own words, describe what would happen if God ended the proclamation of His Word?
2. If someone said to you: “I just don’t see the point of listening to a sermon every week.”, how would you respond?
3. The main point of a sermon is not the mere conveyance of information, but \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. How does reading the Bible on our own during the week affect how we listen to a sermon?
5. Consider how many times you attended church last year. What got in the way of coming to church? What is something you could do this year to make it easier to come to church?
6. What are some things that distract you when you are at church? What wouldhelp you focus?

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

Chew – Buy a crusty loaf of bread. Spread it with butter, jam, peanut butter, or honey. Read Matthew 4:4. Eat the bread. Consider how God feeds us both physically and spiritually.

Reflect – What are some things you can do to avoid a famine of hearing from God?

Out and about – When you are having coffee with friends, what are some things you can do to encourage a positive attitude about sermons?

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