

(From the Pledge) . . . A message so anointed that lives are transformed by the power of God's Word . . .

The two main factors involved:

### 1. The Word Itself

Isaiah 55:10-11 (NLT) - "The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth. They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry. It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it."

### 2. The Listener's Ear

Mark 4:24-25 (NLT) - Then he added, "Pay close attention to what you hear. The closer you listen, the more understanding you will be given—and you will receive even more. To those who listen to my teaching, more understanding will be given. But for those who are not listening, even what little understanding they have will be taken away from them."

## Study Questions

1. Can you describe how familiar you are with the Bible?
  - very familiar
  - relatively familiar
  - largely familiar
  - unfamiliar
2. Would you like to see your degree of familiarity change? How might you go about seeing that happen? (p.s. - this is not a trick question.)
3. Have you ever established a 'life' verse? Have you ever considered the concept? For example, my life verse is Isaiah 26:3, which I unintentionally learned as a child. Why might a life verse be helpful?
4. What is your current approach to Bible reading? is there any evidence of intentionality, purpose or scheduling involved?
5. We believe that it's more important than it has ever been to 'get your roots down'. Bible reading is probably the most certain way of doing that. Commit today to intentionally pursue some plans or method to regularly get into the Word.