



Midweek Meditation



“When you received the Word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the Word of God, which is at work in you believers.” 1 Thessalonians 2:13

The neglect of Scripture, even by spiritual leaders, is one of the greatest evils in the world. Everything else, arts or literature, is pursued and practiced day and night, and there is no end of labor and effort; but Holy Scripture is neglected as though there were no need of it. Those who condescend to read it want to absorb everything at once. There has never been an art or a book on earth that everyone has so quickly mastered as the Holy Scriptures. But its words are not, as some think, mere literature; they are words of life, intended not for speculation and fantasy but for life and action. But why complain? No one pays any attention to our lament. May Christ our Lord help us by His Spirit to love and honor His holy Word with all our hearts.

Martin Luther

We do not read the Bible for information, although we are informed when reading it. We do not read it to please God, although God is pleased when we read it. God’s Word is a power that works in us. This is the Holy Spirit acting to kill us and to make us alive, to bring us down into the depths of hell and to lift us up into heaven. An excuse often given is “I already know all the stories in the Bible.” We also know how our dinner will taste, and yet we eat it, not for a new and vibrant taste we never yet experienced, but for the nourishment it gives. When we begin to see the Word of God in this way, we will, by God’s grace, hunger for it in the way He desires.

O Lord, give me a hunger for Your Word even as You give me a hunger for nourishing food. And as You promise, let Your Spirit work within me as I hear, read, and study Your words of life. Amen.