

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

WHY?

Children beginning at about three years of age pepper their conversation with a “why?” after everything you say to them. Often times the repetition of “why?” gets a bit annoying; nevertheless, the questioning is important to this stage of their development.

Asking “why?” is not so bad an idea for church people either. Why do we go to church? Why do we listen to sermons? Why do we read the Bible? Why do we need to go to classes? Why?

A variety of answers can be given; yet, there is really only one major reason: The reason is so that we can hear a LIVING WORD from God. Not merely hear the Word of God, hear a LIVING WORD from God.

The opposite of LIVING WORD is DEAD WORD. DEAD WORD is words on a page or words of a manuscript, words in a speech. LIVING WORD is a message that leaps off the page or off the lips of someone and into the heart, mind and soul of a person. LIVING WORD alters the molecules, changes one’s heart, effects one’s behavior, determines ones destiny.

LIVING WORD has been described as being “like the plea of an old-fashioned young man on his knees asking a young woman to marry him. She realizes that her affirmative response to this ‘address’ will change the rest of her life. (*Daniel Erlander*)

Children and youth of St. Timothy this fall will be exposed to the Bible and its stories in a variety of settings. (*See accompanying Ministry Plan and schedule of opportunities.*) In the beginning, these opportunities may only involve rote learning. The goal, however, is that they become the platform for

God to communicate a LIVING WORD.

The reason parents, mentors, the whole congregation should be behind these efforts and support them fully is so that our kids are touched by a life-altering, life-shaping, life-sustaining LIVING WORD.