



Digging Deeper

Putting your faith in ACTION!

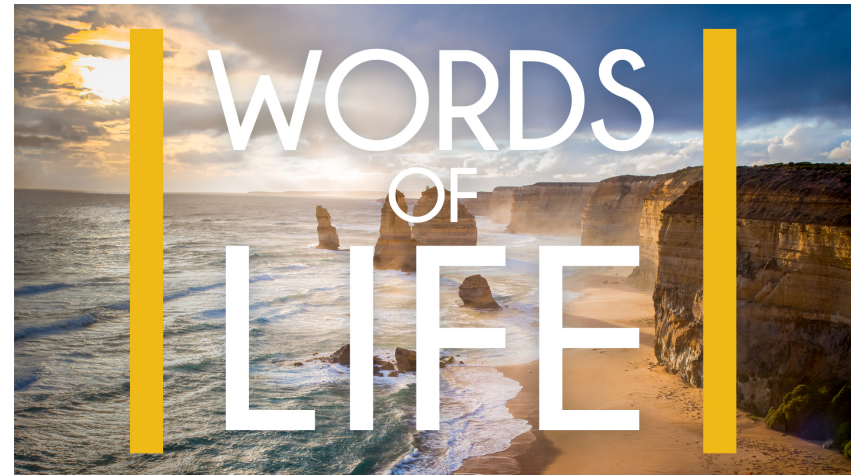
This morning let's not be just 'hearers' of the Word, but 'doers of the word. Take some time at lunch, dinner, or bedtime to DIG DEEPER into the today's lesson and story. Take a few moments to apply today's lesson to our lives.

ASK MYSELF...challenging questions for the heart:

1. Have you truly considered that God has specific purposes and plans concerning your life? Would you say that you find yourself walking out His will in this regard? Why or why not? What can you do today to begin moving towards His will?
2. Why do we sometimes doubt that He has good plans – plans that give us hope and a future? How does Jeremiah 29:10-14 minister to you today?
3. Are there any course corrections you might need to make to align your life with God's plan for you?
4. How would you like to go deeper into God's Word this week?

FOR THE FAMILY...challenging questions for family life:

1. Talk through the big idea of this series and today's message points.
2. Discuss the scriptures shared today, especially Jeremiah 29:11. How does that encourage each of you?
3. Take a few moments for what you hope God's plans entail.
4. Take some time pray together.



Today's Service

July 16th, 2017

Series: Words of Life

Part 2: Hope & A Future

Pastor Brian Stanley



Am I following God’s _____ for my life?

Self-examination invites God-examination

Jeremiah 20:12a (NLT) O Lord of Heaven’s Armies, you test those who are righteous, and you examine the deepest thoughts and secrets.

Psalms 139:23-24 (NLT) ²³Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. ²⁴Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

Psalms 26:2 (NLT) ²Put me on trial, Lord, and cross-examine me. Test my motives and my heart.

1 Corinthians 11:28 (NLT) ²⁸That is why you should examine yourself before eating the bread and drinking the cup.

Job 13:23 (NLT) ²³Tell me, what have I done wrong? Show me my rebellion and my sin.

Lamentations 3:40 (NLT) ⁴⁰Instead, let us test and examine our ways. Let us turn back to the Lord.

Psalms 119:59 (NLT) ⁵⁹I pondered the direction of my life, and I turned to follow your laws.

Getting to the bottom of the question - Psalm 139:1-18

¹⁶You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. ¹⁷How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered! ¹⁸I can’t even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me!

Romans 12:2 (NLT) ²Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you

will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Jeremiah 29:10-14 (NLT) ¹⁰This is what the Lord says: “You will be in Babylon for seventy years. But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and I will bring you home again. ¹¹**For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.** ¹²In those days when you pray, I will listen. ¹³If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me. ¹⁴I will be found by you,” says the Lord. “I will end your captivity and restore your fortunes. I will gather you out of the nations where I sent you and will bring you home again to your own land.”

Acts 26:14 (NLT) ¹⁴We all fell down, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is useless for you to fight against my will.’

Proverbs 3:5 (NLT) ⁵Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.

NOTES:

