**February 14, 2016**

***The Joy of God’s Word***

Nehemiah 8:8-12, Luke 24:13-16, 30-32

In Nehemiah 8, why was it important for the leaders to comfort and encourage the people to celebrate the Lord in His Joy rather than worry and grieve? Knowing about Jesus, how much more should we be joyful?

What is the difference between recognizing & dealing with our sin OR languishing in perpetual guilt over our failure? Which one is manipulative and which is freeing (Galatians 5:1, 13-14)?

Both stories (Nehemiah 8 and Luke 24) happened 5600 miles away and millennia ago. Why does this same scripture affect us as deeply now as then (Hebrews 4:11-13)?

The people in these two stories were stirred by their Indebtedness to God and the certainty of the Messiah’s coming in the Law & Prophets. Why are these topics still central to our human situation in these modern, technology-driven times?

Why was teaching and understanding important in both stories? Why are teaching and understanding foundational to our Joy in the Lord (Ephesians 4:17-24)?

The Church in Acts had the Law, Prophets, Writings, and the Apostles teaching about Jesus the Living Word of God. We now have the written down teaching of the Apostles. There is no expiration date on this never ending supply of soul food. Are you able to rejoice in that?...should you rejoice more than you currently are?

What have been some of your life-changing moments in the scripture?