



11-12-17 Sermon Discussion Guide "Game On! - The Playbook"

**GAME
ON!**

Context

Our Christian Education theme for year is "Game On!" We are encouraging people to be fully engaged participants in the ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Throughout this year, the second Sunday of each month will be our "Game On Sundays." We'll explore how we play this game as Christians and what we need in order to play it well. In short, we are all players on the team. Our presence matters. This month, we talk about the playbook in our game – the Bible. We'll explore how the Bible empowers us to be fully engaged in our faith.

Checking In

Since the last time your group has met, how have each of you experienced God at work? What have you celebrated? What have you mourned?

Introduction

Consider a time when somebody told you exactly what you needed to hear at just the right time. How did that make you feel? Did the comment empower you to do something hard? Did it encourage you while you were going through a rough time? The right thing, said at the right time in the right way, can alter the course of our lives.

Discussing the Text – Hebrews 4:12-13, Psalm 119:1-16, 105

1. Hebrews 4:12 talks about the word of God. What is the word of God?
2. What does it mean for word of God to be living and active? Does that mean that it changes?
3. How can the word of God judge us?
4. What is the significance of comparing the word of God to a double-edged sword? What does that tell us about God's word?
5. What part of the Bible do you think the Psalmist is talking about throughout Psalm 119?
6. What does it mean to "live according to your word" as it says in Psalm 119:9?
7. How does the Psalmist use God's word to try not to sin in Psalm 119, verse 11? What does it mean to "hide your word in my heart?"

So what?

1. If the word of God is living and active, how can we trust it? When do we know we are hearing God's word and not something else?
2. How have you experienced God's word holding you accountable?
3. How does God's word guide your path like a lamp by your feet? More specifically, how does the Bible actually give you guidance when living your life?
4. What do you do if God's word seems to contradict other direction or advice in your life? How do you determine what's right to do?
5. How does God's word empower you to be more engaged with your faith, with following Jesus?

Prayer

Share something for which you are thankful and/or something for which you need support. Have the group pray that God would use his word to guide them and encourage them this week.