Hebrews 4:12-13
"The Work of the Word"

Big Picture of Chapter 4:
- Aim of life — Rest
- Means of entering — Faith
- Means of faith — God's Word
- Diligence of using said means

<u>God's Word is:</u>
- **God's Word**
  - 2 Timothy 3:16— "all scripture is breathed out by God"
- **Living**
  - Psalm 119:89; Isaiah 40:8
  - It lives because God is living and this Word is breathed out by Him
- **Effective**
  - Isaiah 55:11
  - It accomplishes God's purposes
- **Penetrating**
- **Discerning**
  - Judgment — taking a car to a professional before buying it
    - Reveals what's good and bad
    - What's believing and what's unbelieving
    - What are we trusting in?
- **Revealing**
  - Proverbs 15:3; Psalm 90:8

Hebrews 3:12-13
- deceitfulness of sin
- It finds its power in it's promises
- Beauty, acceptance, power, despair, religion, etc
- We've got plenty of this within us
- Starts early and young
- Layers upon layers that we can't distinguish the truth from error
- We believe it to be true and build our life upon it
- Yet we can't find rest
- We are holding on to fool's gold and can't see it unless light shines into it

The Word of the Word:
- its what God says, not man
- It is alive— active today
- It is effective — does its purpose
- It is penetrating — breaks through the layers
- Discerning — shows us why
- Revealing — lays us bare before the Lord
- To show us the way to true rest

**When we read the Word, it actually reads us

Verse 12 presents the Word
Verse 13 presents the crisis we find ourselves

**Jesus is greater than whatever your are sacred to lose or give up!!

Small Group Discussion:

Hebrews 4:12–13 — “The Work of the Word”

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the Scripture and sermon Sunday? What stood out to you? What questions do you have?

2. Hebrews 4:12 describes God's Word as living, active, and effective. How does knowing that Scripture is God's very Word, rather than merely the words of men, change the way we approach it, read it, and obey it?

3. The sermon emphasized that God's Word penetrates the layers of deception in our hearts and exposes what we are truly trusting in. What are some promises the world, our flesh, or sin offer us that can deceive us into believing they will bring us satisfaction or rest?

4. The sermon made the statement, "When we read the Word, it actually reads us." How have you experienced Scripture exposing your motives, revealing unbelief, or correcting something you previously believed to be true? Why is it sometimes difficult to let God's Word examine our hearts?

5. Hebrews 4:13 reminds us that nothing is hidden from God and that we are completely exposed before Him. The sermon concluded, "Jesus is greater than whatever you are scared to lose or give up!" What makes it difficult for us to surrender certain things to Jesus, and how does the truth of who He is give us confidence to trust Him rather than the false promises of sin?