

Handout for Sermon May 29, 2011

Ways to Taste and Hear Scripture

Scripture as a Chain

- ⊙ All of scripture is an interlocking chain
- ⊙ Each verse of scripture is equally important, equally valid, most often equally the literal word of God
- ⊙ Remember the cliché: A chain is only as strong as its weakest link

Scripture as Concentric Circles

- ⊙ There is a “theological center” to scripture, like God’s love or the life, death, resurrection of Jesus Christ
- ⊙ All of scripture is based, interpreted through that center
- ⊙ Example: John 3:16 – For God so loved the world that God gave his only Son.

Scripture as Moral Code

- ⊙ The Bible contains universal moral principles and we are to understand these principles and apply them/live them in our lives
- ⊙ Example: Love your neighbor as you love yourself
- ⊙ Always look at scripture for the take away kernel to apply to your life

Scripture as a Conversation

- ⊙ Bible is a record of an on-going, unfolding conversation between God and God’s people
- ⊙ But, by being informed, we become better listeners, conversational partners with God today
- ⊙ John Robinson, “There is more light and truth breaking forth from God”

Scripture as Breathed in

- ⊙ Scripture as a living, life giving force that we are called to breathe in scripture
- ⊙ Allow it to roam around our minds, hearts and souls to disrupt us, calm us, change us
- ⊙ In prayerfully hearing scripture, retelling scripture, we participate in the on-going, unfolding relationship with God