



The Spoken Word of God

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Questions to consider, discuss or journal.

1. An oral-based culture is concerned with communicating a core authoritative spoken message, while a textual culture focuses on maintaining a correct authoritative written text. Such a worldview can become an intellectual exercise losing sight of the relationship with God that was the intent of the original oral message. What are the implications to the Bible Message that God's words were originally communicated orally and not in written text form?
2. During Bible times and throughout the course of history people have had to rely on memory to remember God's words and instructions. The Author specifically explores specific scenarios with Moses and Ezra. How does that affect your perception of the Children of Israel or other hearers or the word?
3. The author shares a number of memory tools. What is your experience in remembering the Word of God? What tools have been helpful to you? Which other tools could you explore to remember the relational themes explored in the bible more than the specific text?
4. How did you decide how to receive the contents of this article? Did you read, listen to the podcast, or watch the video? What factors lead to your decision?
5. Jesus had a level of education that allowed him to read the scroll in the synagogue but he opted to share the Word of God to the people in stories. Jesus had his followers to teach others in the same way that he had taught them. What would it look like if you were to share the message from Jesus in the same way?
6. How can you create a space in your spiritual community for sharing stories and history from your community elders and members?
7. What would your Sunday morning look like if the emphasis in the service was placed on God's word embodied in an authoritative person, the Lord Jesus, who seeks a relationship with each one of us as opposed to resolving discrepancies in the written text?