



## Growth Group Discussion Guide

Passage: Hebrews 4:11-13

**Introduction:** Do you think that people can really change? Why or Why Not?

**Overview:** In this passage the author of Hebrews considers the nature of God's Word and how God uses it in our lives. Unlike other books, God's Word is spiritually alive and spiritually powerful. Ultimately, this passage demonstrates that God uses His Word in the lives of His people to soften our hearts before Him so that we might enter His rest.



### Into the Word

The author of Hebrews describes God's Word as "living". **Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17.** How is the Bible alive? How is the Bible different from other books you might read?

**Resource: What Does the Inspiration of the Scripture Mean?**

Verse 12 also tells us that the living Word of God is active. How is the activity of God's Word described in this passage? **Read Isaiah 55:10-11.** How does this passage compare to the activity described in Hebrews?

Verse 12 compares God's Word to a "two edged sword". This kind of sword was shorter, used in close combat, and able to pierce armor. Based on this metaphor, how does God intend for us to experience His Word ? How is this related to hard heartedness?



### Into the Heart

Verse 13 tells us that we are truly seen and known by God. Does this produce in you a sense of fear or a sense of joy? Why is this? What makes the difference?

Consider: 1 John 4:16-18

Have you ever experienced conviction in the way described in this passage? When? How is deep conviction related to deeper growth as a Christian?

**Resource: A Prayer About Conviction of Sin and Gospel Grief**



### Into the World

According to this passage, how can we become a community that is more wholehearted toward God and open hearted toward one another?

How can you better prepare yourself to receive the living and active Word of God? On Sunday? During the week?

**Resource: You Were Made to Meditate**