

*God's Word does its Work*

**Isaiah 55:11**

**so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.**

Beginning in chapter 40, Isaiah's message is one of comfort and good news that the exiles would return from Babylon. Here in 55:11 there is an emphasis on how God's Word can be trusted. The Word always brings about what God wants done

God's Word is more powerful than armies, treaties, chariots, horses, as well as every other human might. Only his Word directs history, and this proves that he alone is the true God. The centurions confession echoes this same confidence in God's Word made flesh in Jesus: "only say the word and my servant will be healed" (Mt. 8:8). (CC)

God makes contact with sinners through His Word. The Word comes from God, who authors it and sends it across time and space to the sinner. It will accomplish what God desires and that is the salvation of his people. God assures us in these verses that His Word is effective. It is His Word because it goes out of His mouth and returns to Him. As His Word, it is powerful. The writer to the Hebrews reminds us, "The word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to the dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart" (4:12) (CC)

For us as Christians, the Word has been and continues to be a vital part of our lives. It began when the Word and water of Baptism brought us into His kingdom. After Baptism the Word was shared in Bible stories and worship services. As we grow older the Word is a part of our life through devotions, worship and Bible study. That Word has also made its way into hearts all over the world. That Word is something that we can share boldly knowing that it has saving power.

Prayer: Lord God, may Your Word continue to accomplish Your purposes among us and around the world. Teach us to hold Your Word sacred and gladly hear and learn it. Amen. (TLSB)