

## **The Sword of the Spirit**

March 11, 2018

Thank you so much for choosing to worship with us today. We are thrilled that you are here!

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*"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."*

*Hebrews 4:12*

*"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."*

*II Timothy 3:16-17*

*"Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."*

*Ephesians 6:17*

*"In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword."*

*Revelation 1:16*

What is your view of the word of God? Is it a rule book? Is it a series of proof texts for your beliefs? Is it a book used to judge others? Is it a love story? Is it a moral guidebook for behavior?

How you view the Bible is critical to how you use it!

A few observations from the scriptures above:

1. The word of God is an ongoing penetration of the deepest areas of the real you.
2. It is not a lifeless collection of words, but a living and moving evaluation of your heart.
3. Sometimes the work of the word will hurt as it cuts deep into your heart.
4. The word prepares us to serve.
5. The word is a weapon to fight evil in the world and in our own lives.
6. Jesus uses the word to judge the collective and individual lives of churches.
7. The word is first and foremost to be used as a judge of self rather than a judge of others.

All Things for Christ,  
Michael