Youth



Prepare in Advance

Facilitator: In advance of the session:

- Retrieve, review, and have ready the video's and slides listed below (links are provided on this session's webpage).
- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.

Motivation

Show the Mystery Men movie clip and use these questions to facilitate discussion.

- Why did the Mystery Men want to give up? How did this speech motivate them to continue?
- What is the most motivating speech you have ever experienced? How did it motivate you?
- Why do we occasionally need outside motivation to do something difficult?
- Do you think words have much power? Why or why not? When do words go from ordinary words to motivating and powerful words.

Emotion

Read Nehemiah 8:1-10 and watch the *Bible Background Video* for this passage.

- Have you ever heard scripture being read at length?
 If so, what was it like?
- What do you think it would be like for scripture to be read out loud for hours at a time?
- Why was the reading of scripture important to those who heard it in this week's text?
- Why did the people begin to mourn when they heard the book of the law being read?
- Do you find it odd that people can receive joy and strength through hearing scripture being read? Why or why not?

Power

Play the Word of God Speak music video.

- Tell of a time when you longed for a word from God? How did God respond?
- How does scripture change a Christian when it is heard?
- Have you ever felt motivated by scripture? Explain.

- Do you think your generation sometimes takes scripture for granted? Why or why not?
- How do you feel when we make the powerful words of God into meaningless words?
- Why do we not get as emotional about scripture as the people in this week's text?
- How can we change our mindset to not take God's word for granted?
- Does your youth group have any sort of theme verse or passage of scripture that describes you? If so, how does that text define and direct your youth group?

Close in prayer.

By Don Breeden

