## Dear Open Door Family,

Almost every Saturday morning the phone would ring. It was my Dad calling to talk with me and to see how things were going. This was long before email, the internet, and free long distance. So he called on Saturday when it was cheep and we would be able to spend more time talking. Many times this is when I, as a young and struggling pastor, would ask Dad about some passage of scripture or some difficulty that I was having finding an application. After the Lord called my Dad home I realized how much those calls had meant. They showed that I was precious to my Dad and that he valued me so he invested time and effort to be able to talk with me every week. It has been years since those phone calls and I still miss them. But that makes me ask the question What do we value? What is it that we find precious? Certainly our check books or credit card statements give one indication of what we value. If you took a snap shot of how we spend our time especially the time over which we have total control. That would also say something about what we treasure. Let's look at these verses together.

**Deuteronomy 32:46-47** (NLT) ... Take to heart all the words of warning I have given you today. Pass them on as a command to your children so they will obey every word of these instructions. [47] *These instructions are not empty words - they are your life!* ...

Moses knew he had very little time left to communicate with the people whom he had led out of Egypt and through the wilderness for so many years. So after sharing many things and recapping God's Law and the blessings and curses attached to Obedience or disobedience he goes on to make one final statement about God's Word. *These instructions are not empty words - they are your life!* He was saying to them God's Word should be a LIFE or DEATH issue to you. You may be able exist without God's Word but you will never truly LIVE without it. We all say we value and treasure God's Word. But do we actually act like God's Word is our greatest treasure. Do we read it spend time thinking about it and asking God to open our understanding of it? As we understand are we committed to Obeying it? How do we invest time when it come to God's Word? Do we spend more time vegging in front of the TV, or interacting with others on the Internet, than we do in reading and studying God's Word? It is one thing to say that we value God's Word. Many times it is something else entirely to actually live out that truth in our daily lives. May God's Word become more and more real to us as we spend time with God in His Word. May we learn to live out the truth that God's Word in such a way that it will be obvious to others that God's Word is LIFE to us.

**PRAYER:** Lord thank You for you WORD. Thank you that it is so easily accessible that I can read it and understand it. Lord God thank You for all those people down through the years who have given their lives so that I could have Your Word in my language and understand it easily. Please Lord God help me to Treasure Your Word may it become LIFE for me.

Pastor Mark Kieft	
>>>>>>>>>>>	>