

God's Word: Eat Fresh

“Crowding out the Word of God”
John 8:37b

When it comes to discipleship, are you a bonsai or a sequoia?

Shallow discipleship is the result of inadequate room for the word of God in our lives. Like the land unable to accommodate Abraham's and Lot's flocks (Genesis 13:6); or Elijah's trench to contain the three measures of drawn water (1 Kings 18:30-35); or the house unable to hold the crowds who gathered to hear Jesus' teaching (Mark 2:2); or the world to hold the books that would be needed to record every miracle that Christ performed (John 21:25); the human heart unaided by the Spirit of God crowds out the word of God. Let's take a look into God's Word this morning at an incredible encounter with Christ and explore the possibility that we may be crowding out the word of God from our own lives. More importantly, I'll show you how you can begin to cultivate a rich heart for God where the Word of God will flourish and grow to help you become all God has called you to be.

“ . . . *you have no room for my word.*”
Jesus

It is surprising to whom Jesus addresses this statement.

- The glorious setting of the Mt. of Olives and the Temple Mount (John 8:1-2)
- The shamed and suspiciously single woman (John 8:3-11)
- The Pharisees who left and the ones who stayed (John 8:12-59)
- What would Jesus say to you?

It is surprising how we so easily crowd out the Word of God.

- The great discipline of discipleship (Colossians 3:16a NIVO)
- Exposure to the Word (Matthew 4:4)
- Spending your passions well (Matthew 6:19-21; Genesis 13:5-9)
- Gripped by the truth (John 8:31-32)

When it comes to being a disciple of Jesus Christ, are you a bonsai or a sequoia? What do you need to do today to make room for God's word in your life? Let's take a few moments and respond to the Spirit of God as He deals with each of our hearts.