How to Hear from God | Week 4

Introduction

God primarily speaks to us through His word. If you want to learn God's voice, then get into the Bible because the more you get into it the more it will get into you. Training in His word helps us to live out His will in our lives.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2 (NIV)

Conversation Starters (15 minutes)

- 1. If you could time travel, would you go to the past or the future?
- 2. What's the most adventurous thing you've ever done on a whim?

Sermon Notes Review (15 minutes)

What caught your attention, challenged, or impacted you from this weekend's message?

Watch the Video (5 minutes)

Group Discussion (40 minutes)

1. Robert shared three questions to ask ourselves when we read scripture:

What does it say?

What does it mean?

What do I do with it?

How would applying these three questions help you as you grow with God? Would you have to do anything differently as you read?

2. Let's practice asking these three questions as we read and discuss the following passages of scripture. For each passage, read the scripture, then answer the three questions:

What does it say? What does it mean? What do I do with it?

- James 1:19-21
- Colossians 3:12-17 (Hint: It might be helpful to read the paragraph or two that comes before verse 12. This will help you understand what the word "therefore" is there for.)
- Matthew 28:16-20
- 3. Read Romans 12:2 What role does God's Word play in renewing our minds and transforming us? How does this transformation enable us to discern God's will in our lives?

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- 4. What does <u>2 Timothy 3:16-17</u> tell us about the role of Scripture in equipping us for righteous living?
- 5. Having a plan for reading Scripture makes it more likely we will actually do it. Is there a Bible reading plan you are currently following that helps you engage with God's Word regularly?
 - If you have a plan that works for you, please share it with the group!
 - If you are looking for a plan, here are some suggestions:
 - o Sun Valley daily devotionals subscribe at devo.sv.cc
 - Follow a bible reading plan from the Bible app there are thousands of plans to choose from!
 - Check out <u>The Bible Project</u> for reading plans and videos that help you understand the Bible as a unified story
 - o Try a read the bible in a year plan
 - What is your plan for spending time with God in Scripture this week? How can the group help each other with this?

Prayer (10 minutes)

Have someone close the group in prayer. You can use your own words or the words below:

God, thank you for our time together. Help us receive your grace and to give it away to others. Give us wisdom and strength in the areas where we need it. Help us to recognize that we are all sinners in need of your grace. We are so thankful for your love, grace, and mercy, Jesus. Amen.

Announcements (5 minutes)

- **Baptism** is an outward expression of an inward decision you made when you said Yes to Jesus. If you have said Yes to Jesus, your next step is baptism. Our next baptism weekend is February 22nd and 23rd at all campuses. Sign up today at baptism.sv.cc.
- Sun Valley University is a series of courses designed to give students a foundation in Bible literacy and Theology. Our next course, The Old Testament, begins Tuesday, February 4. Find more details and sign up at svu.sv.cc.
- Celebrate Recovery is a safe place for anyone with hurts, habits, and hang-ups. Learn more and find a campus near you to start your recovery at cr.sv.cc

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