

habits of grace

LISTEN. SPEAK. BELONG.

WEEK 2 : LISTEN (2 TIMOTHY 3:14-17)

"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." - 2 Timothy 3:14-17

QUOTE

"The potential practices are limitless, but the principle beneath the practice is this: The fundamental means of God's ongoing grace, through his Spirit, in the life of the Christian and the life of the church is God's self-expression in his Word, in the gospel, perfectly kept for us and on display in all its textures, riches, and hues in the external written word of the Scriptures." - Habits of Grace

HEARING THE VOICE OF GOD

"God has given us his abiding Word so that we are not without his voice in all the trials and temptations of this life. In the Bible, we proclaim, God yet speaks to his people." -Brian Chapell

1. Verse 16 says that "All Scripture is breathed out by God". Why is that significant to knowing God and how should that shape how we view the Scriptures?

2. Psalm 1 (read it) says that the blessed man "delights" and "meditates day and night" on the Scriptures and they cause him to prosper like a tree planted by a stream of water. Write down all the different ways/avenues we have today to hear the voice of God through the Scriptures. Which of these habits can you implement to be nourished daily by hearing God's voice?

If you don't "delight" in God's word, write down some reasons why. Discuss and pray for ways to cultivate that desire.

"TAPPING INTO THE GRACE OF GOD IS ESSENTIAL FOR OUR SPIRITUAL LIVES. THOUGH WE CAN'T MAKE THE FAVOR OF GOD FLOW, WE CAN POSITION OURSELVES TO RECEIVE THE FAVOR HE HAS PROMISED."

SEEING THE HAND OF GOD

"Rather than dictating specific actions, the apostle wants to see us formed into the kind of persons who are able to "discern what is pleasing to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:10), and then act in light of it."

- Habits of Grace

3. Vs. 16 says that "All Scripture is..profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete (mature), equipped for every good work". What does this teach us about the effectiveness of knowing God's word and applying it to every area of our life?

4. Scan Ephesians chapters 5 and 6. Write down some things you learn from God's word about the Christian life in general (5:1-2, 5:10, 5:15-17) and major areas of life specifically (marriage, parenting, work, etc.).

How is hearing God's word helpful for seeing the hand of God in all aspects of life?

KNOWING THE HEART OF GOD

"The sacred writings', he says, 'are able to instruct you for salvation.' The Bible is essentially a handbook of salvation. Its over-arching purpose is to teach not facts of science (e.g. the nature of moon rock) which men can discover by their own empirical investigation, but facts of salvation, which no space exploration can discover but only God can reveal. The whole Bible unfolds the divine scheme of salvation" - John Stott

5. Vs. 15 says that the "sacred writings" are "able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ". Why is this gospel message central to what God communicates through his word?

6. How does having salvation through faith in Jesus bring a desire to hear from God and power to follow his ways?

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