

# Session 3: The Bible is the Primary Way to Hear God

## REVIEW:

### 1. Why? Because God's Word is INSPIRED!

*"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God[a] may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."* (1 Timothy 3:16 - 17)

- God inspired the authors of Scripture to write exactly what He wanted them to write (ref. 2 Peter 1:20 – 21)
- Because the Bible (in its original languages) are inspired by God it is INERRANT, INFALLIBLE, FOUNDATIONAL and AUTHORITATIVE
- Do we hold a high view of Scripture in our lives?

### 2. How does God speak through His Word?

- LOGOS – references Jesus in John 1:1 (three times) but otherwise refers to His general word through the written word and forms the foundation and allows us to hear...
- RHEMA – the specific and personal Word of God

### 3. How do we learn to hear God's voice through His Word?

- Read it – *"But as for you, **continue in what you have learned** and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how **from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures**, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus."* (2 Timothy 3:14 – 15)
- Submit to it – our attitude and posture towards His Word
- Obey it – *"To **obey** is better than sacrifice."* (1 Samuel 15:22) *"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. **Do what it says.**"* (James 1:22)

# PRACTICUM: Meditation Question and Conversation

## Exercise 1: Homework Sharing (From Session Two)

Take a quick look through your devotional journal. Did you hear God speaking to you? What did he say?

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## Exercise 2: Devotional Tool

### SMORP

**S** – Scripture: Write down what you are reading and memorizing and highlight any verse or passage that stood out to you

**M** – Message: Record and observations you have, or what you believe the Lord might be saying to you – correction, direction, encouragements, promise, wisdom, etc.

**O** – Obedience: Write down a step of faith and obedience you need to take today, or this week based on how God has spoken to you through His Word

**R** – Repentance: Take time to repent if God lays this on your heart. Write this out.

**P** – Prayer: Take a few moments to pray, thanking God for what He has said and revealed to you as well as anything else on your heart.

## Exercise 3: Read and Meditate on Psalm 103

**Step One:** On your own, carefully, and prayerfully read Psalm 103. Don't be in rush. Take time to meditate and reflect on the Psalm as you read. Use the Scripture page to jot down notes, observations, etc.

**Step Two:** Take the posture of allowing God to speak to you about anything **HE** wishes.

- As God to reveal something particularly out of the **MESSAGE** and **OBEDIENCE** parts of **SMORP**
- What stands out to you from this Psalm? Write it below.

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- If you feel you might need to ask God a question, write it down! That's God speaking to you!

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• If you don't sense any questions, then pick a phrase of verse that catches your heart or jumps out at you. Dialogue with God in the same way as sessions 1 and 2 on it.

- Share briefly with your group what you received from God. Pray for each other to grow in hearing God this week

## Psalm 103

Of David.

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord, my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.  
<sup>2</sup> Praise the Lord, my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits—  
<sup>3</sup> who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases,  
<sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the pit  
and crowns you with love and compassion,  
<sup>5</sup> who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.  
<sup>6</sup> The Lord works righteousness  
and justice for all the oppressed.  
<sup>7</sup> He made known his ways to Moses,  
his deeds to the people of Israel:  
<sup>8</sup> The Lord is compassionate and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
<sup>9</sup> He will not always accuse,  
nor will he harbor his anger forever;  
<sup>10</sup> he does not treat us as our sins deserve  
or repay us according to our iniquities.  
<sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the  
earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him;  
<sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west,

so far has he removed our transgressions  
from us.

<sup>13</sup> As a father has compassion on his children,  
so the Lord has compassion on those who  
fear him;  
<sup>14</sup> for he knows how we are formed,  
he remembers that we are dust.  
<sup>15</sup> The life of mortals is like grass,  
they flourish like a flower of the field;  
<sup>16</sup> the wind blows over it and it is gone,  
and its place remembers it no more.  
<sup>17</sup> But from everlasting to everlasting  
the Lord's love is with those who fear him,  
and his righteousness with their children's  
children—  
<sup>18</sup> with those who keep his covenant  
and remember to obey his precepts.  
<sup>19</sup> The Lord has established his throne in heaven,  
and his kingdom rules over all.  
<sup>20</sup> Praise the Lord, you his angels,  
you mighty ones who do his bidding,  
who obey his word.  
<sup>21</sup> Praise the Lord, all his heavenly hosts,  
you his servants who do his will.  
<sup>22</sup> Praise the Lord, all his works  
everywhere in his dominion.  
Praise the Lord, my soul.

## HOMEWORK:

1. Meditate and journal your conversation with God in the book of John this week:  
Day 1 – John 14:1 – 14  
Day 2 – John 14:15 – 31  
Day 3 – John 15:1 – 17  
Day 4 – John 15:18 – 25  
Day 5 – John 16:1 – 15  
Day 6 – John 16:16 – 33
2. Come prepared to share a “God Conversation” from your homework assignment.