

## CHAPTER FIVE

# HOW TO HEAR FROM GOD

### A. HOW DOES GOD TALK TO ME?

God's Word, the Bible, is God's personal love letter to you. As you read the Bible, you will sense that God Himself is whispering in your spiritual ear, and indeed He is! The Bible is unlike any other book because it is alive and full of life and power. It is your primary source of spiritual food. It will help you to grow and to be strong. Because the Bible will give you spiritual food, strength, light and power, the enemy will do anything he can to distract you from reading it. Your Bible will teach you everything you need to know to walk victoriously in this life. It is no wonder he fights so hard to keep you from reading it. Schedule a daily reading time into your life right now. Let's take a look at this exciting Book, the Bible.

#### 1. Who wrote the Bible?

a. The Bible is a supernaturally written Book.

2 Timothy 3:16,17

Who do the Scriptures say inspired the writing of the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_

2 Peter 1:20,21

Is any part of the Scripture not inspired by God? \_\_\_\_\_

b. Jesus believed that the Scriptures were inspired by God, because He consistently quoted the Old Testament as His authority.

John 5:39

Who do the Scriptures testify about? \_\_\_\_\_

John 5:46,47

Who was Moses writing about in the Old Testament? \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. How reliable is the Bible?

Will the Bible ever become obsolete? What do these verses tell us about the Bible?

a. Psalm 119:89 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Matthew 24:35 \_\_\_\_\_

c. 1 Peter 1:25 \_\_\_\_\_

d. Isaiah 40:8 \_\_\_\_\_

**A SUPERNATURAL BOOK:** The Bible was written by forty different men who had various occupations. It was written during a period of more than 1,500 years in three languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek). The Bible has one consistent central theme in both the Old and New Testaments: Jesus Christ. It is obvious to any reader that there is one Supreme Author of the Bible, the Holy Spirit of God.

3. Why did God give us the Bible?

2 Timothy 3:16,17

a. What does the Scripture provide for the believer? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. What is the result for every believer? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What does God's Word do in our lives?

a. Hebrews 4:12 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. John 8:31,32 \_\_\_\_\_

c. John 15:3 \_\_\_\_\_

d. Psalm 119:105 \_\_\_\_\_

e. Psalm 119:130 \_\_\_\_\_

f. 2 Peter 1:4 \_\_\_\_\_

g. Psalm 19:7,8 \_\_\_\_\_

What four things does the Word of God do for us? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

---

---

5. How does God's Word help us grow?

a. God's Word — our spiritual food

Our physical body needs food to grow and to be strong. The same is true for our spirit. We cannot grow if we do not *eat* God's Word. Our spiritual growth will be sporadic if we only *snack* on the Word occasionally. We need a constant diet of God's Word. What is the Bible compared to?

Matthew 4:4 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Peter 2:2 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 119:103 \_\_\_\_\_

b. God's Word — likened to a seed

A seed must be planted into soil before it can grow. In the same way, the Word of God must be planted into your heart in order for you to grow spiritually. Jesus described four different types of soil, or heart conditions, which received the seed of God's Word and the results of each type. The various soil types are listed below. Describe what happened when the seed was sown in each heart.

Luke 8:4-15

the way side \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

rocky ground \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

thorny ground \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

good ground \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What is our responsibility?

What are we instructed to do with the Word?

a. Colossians 3:16 \_\_\_\_\_

b. 2 Timothy 2:15 \_\_\_\_\_

c. Psalm 119:11 \_\_\_\_\_

What is the result? \_\_\_\_\_

d. Joshua 1:8

When are we to meditate? \_\_\_\_\_

What are the results of meditating? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

e. Psalm 1:1,2 \_\_\_\_\_

7. What are the results of hearing God's Word?

a. Romans 10:17 \_\_\_\_\_

b. James 1:22-25

After we have heard the Word, what are we told to do? \_\_\_\_\_

What happens if we hear God's Word but do not do it? \_\_\_\_\_

Compare looking into a mirror and looking into God's Word...

What is the purpose and result of both? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What happens if we hear God's Word and do it? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. John 14:21

When we obey God's Word what are we telling Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

Can we love Jesus without obeying His commands? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Who helps us understand the Word?

a. John 14:26 \_\_\_\_\_

b. John 16:13 \_\_\_\_\_

c. 1 Corinthians 2:11-13 \_\_\_\_\_

9. God's Word is one of our weapons.

God has not left us helpless against the enemy. He has given us one of the strongest weapons available to overcome all of the devil's attacks. What weapon is the Word of God likened to?

a. Ephesians 6:17 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Hebrews 4:12 \_\_\_\_\_

c. Matthew 4:1-11 \_\_\_\_\_

When the devil tried to tempt Jesus, Jesus overcame him by using God's Word, the Sword of the Spirit. What three words did Jesus consistently use to thwart the devil's temptations?

\_\_\_\_\_

What was He quoting? \_\_\_\_\_

## B. PERSONAL APPLICATION

Do you have a daily Bible reading plan? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, purchase or design your own systematic plan whereby you can read the Bible each day. Perhaps your goal can be to read at least one or more chapters in the Bible each day. You might also consider one of the following plans to enhance your study of God's Word.

1. Study the Bible using workbooks, concordances and other reference materials.
2. Take notes of the pastor's sermon each Sunday.
3. Listen to teaching tapes.
4. Read faith-building material.
5. Attend seminars and conferences where the Word is preached.

**C. GROUP EXERCISE**

As a group, have each person share a Scripture verse or passage that has recently had personal meaning to them.

As a group, you might want to take time to outline one of the Epistles in the New Testament.