



hearing

This discussion guide includes preparation BEFORE the group and some guidance DURING the group meeting. Preparation before the group will help you, your leader, and your group to engage and respond to the living and active Word of God.

PREPARATION BEFORE THE GROUP MEETS:

The aim of this preparation is to encourage good & prayerful observation of the text of God's word and the joyful experience of discovering its truth.

Pray & read Hebrews 1.1-3; 1Cor 15.1-8; 2 Timothy 3.14-17

What stands out to you from these readings?

Are you puzzled about anything in these readings?

How do these readings make you **feel**?

What do you **think** in response to these readings?

What will you **do** in response to these readings?

a taste of theology pre-reading: In *Guidance and the voice of God – God still speaks loud and clear. Are you listening?* [Matthias Media, 2005, p78-79], Phillip Jensen and Tony Payne “suggest 5 propositions about how God guides. 1. God, in his sovereignty, uses everything to guide us ‘behind the scenes’. 2. In many and varied ways God *can* speak to his people, and guide them with their conscious cooperation. 3. In these last days God has spoken to us by his Son. 4. God speaks to us today by his Son through his Spirit in the Scriptures. 5. Apart from his Spirit working through Scripture, God does not promise to use any other means to guide us, nor should we expect him to.”

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS: Pray for your discussion time

our **hearing** core value

We delight in **hearing** God speak to us in his living word, the Bible. We hear and obey the Word of God as the Bible is read, preached, taught and spoken.

▸ Do you think/feel this core value reflects what really matters to you as an individual and as a member of this church? Why/why not?

1. the God who speaks | read Genesis 1.1-4 Exodus 19.16-20.19 1 Kings 19.1-13

▸ What stands out, or what do you value most, about the God who speaks?

read Psalm 19 (& refer back to the taste in theology pre-reading)

▸ Do you find the scriptures have the right priority in your life? Discuss why/why not:

2. the first and last word of the God who speaks | read John 1.1-5; 2 Cor 4.6; Hebrews 1.1-3:

▸ What (who 😊) is the most powerful word of God? Share with one another your experience of the power of God's word in your life:

3. growing as hearers | In 1 Corinthians 15 Paul finishes with these words: *Therefore, my dear brothers & sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.* **Hearing** is a core value because we want to stand firm and let nothing move us!

▸ read 1 Corinthians 15.1-8 (cf Rom 1.16) | What is of first importance regarding God's powerful word?

▸ read 2 Tim 3.14-17 | Why is it important to be hearers of all scripture?



our **training** core value

We delight in **training** each other to better serve Jesus and his people. We deliberately equip followers of Jesus to be disciple-making disciples both here and afar. (*Matthew 28.18-20, Ephesians 4.11-13, 2 Timothy 2.2*)

▸ How are you being trained and training others to be hearers of all scripture? How?

PRAY!

