



WEEK 2

Teaching

ICEBREAKER

Tell a tale of a journey you have taken and something unique about that trip that makes you smile thinking about it.

SCRIPTURE READING

Read together the series theme verse using all versions present: **Acts 2:42-47.**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

• When it comes to being devoted to the teaching of God's Word, all of us will fall into one of three categories.

- 1) There are those who reject the Bible as simply a book of legends and myths.
- 2) There are those who respect the Bible as "the truth" but don't follow it.
- 3) There are those who believe the Bible as God's Word and follow it devotedly.

There are six ways that we can become like the third category.

- Be devoted to hearing the Word of God.
- Be devoted to the reading of God's Word.
- Be devoted to the study of God's Word.
- Be devoted to memorizing the Word of God.
- Be devoted to spending time meditating upon the Word of God.
- Be devoted to applying the Word of God to your life.

Take some time with each of these six ways and discuss how you personally pursue God's Word by: Hearing, Reading, Studying, Memorizing, Meditation and Applying. (Leader - allow for every participant to share. Participants - everyone please share as we are all learning from one another.)

Which way(s) do you currently tend to do daily?

Which way(s) do you find you struggle to make time and to commit to?

- **Read:** An excerpt from the Experiencing God Devotional:

"There are times, when in the darkest moments of your life, the only comfort left for you is a word from God. There will be times when events around you confuse you. Those in whom you placed your trust will fail you. People will abandon you. You will be misunderstood and criticized. In these times of distress, when your devotion and obedience

are put to the test, you must let the Scriptures guide and comfort you. Never let the faithlessness of others determine what you do. Turn to the Scriptures and let them reorient you to God and His activity. If you will immerse yourself daily in the Word of God, you will not be caught off guard when crisis come. Your focus will already be on God, and He will safely guide you through your difficult moments."

Have you ever been in those moments we read about and found that by immersing yourself in God's Word that you were able to get through those times?

Was there a particular scripture that you recall that through it God spoke to you to bring you peace?

- God gave us His Word not just to inform us but to transform us. God wants for our beliefs to turn into behaviour. The Bible isn't just something we are to learn, it is something we are to live.

Read: James 1:22

Read: Luke 11:28

Read: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

We know these verses to be true. We can read these verses, memorize these verses, even teach them and say, "Amen" to them but it isn't until we apply them to our own life do we see the benefit of their truth. Up until we apply the truth, the Word can be good doctrine, useful for teaching, for rebuking or correcting and for training us in right living...but God wants us to take His Word and apply it to our lives. The Word of God equips us to *be* and to *do* every good work.

What are some practical ways that you can "do" the way(s) that you struggle with so that you can "be" equipped to continue your faith journey with Christ?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

What is God speaking to you through this DEVOTED message and Small Group discussion? Is there anything that is holding you back from all that God desires for you?

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

Hearing. Reading. Studying. Memorizing. Meditating. Applying. All of these are actions. Make it happen this week with whichever you struggle the most with and commit to and be intentional about taking action to draw closer to God through His Word.

PRAISE REPORTS / PRAYER REQUESTS