First Lesson

Jeremiah 37:17 KJV *“Is there any word from the Lord?” And Jeremiah said, “There is.”*

**Throughout the course of this study we will cover these lessons:**

1. **Approaching God**
2. **Hearing God**
3. **Understanding God**

**INTRODUCTION**

**4/14/2020**

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO KNOW & UNDERSTAND THE WORD OF GOD?

* God cannot be separated from His word *John 1:1*
  + Building a relationship with God must include regular study of His word. He is His word!
  + God’s word is a blessing to the believer. Living a life according to God’s word, is a blessing to God.
  + The believer cannot serve God & live absent of His word.
  + There should be some level of conviction & turning point (repentance) from lifestyles contrary to God’s word.
* To know God’s word, is to know His will *Hebrew 1:1*
  + Through the Holy Spirit, God will speak directly to you & teach you His will & way
  + God wants up to depend on Him for direction & instructions specific to our lives
  + Many mistakes can be avoided & life choices rewarded if we 1st seek God for His will
* Knowing God’s word means you’re more likely to avoid erroneous teaching & bad advice *John 14:26*
  + Understanding the word of God can help the believer to steer clear of bad advice. Advice that goes against the word of God is never good advice!
  + The Holy Spirit will increase your ability to discern His will
  + The Holy Spirit will become your spiritual memory bank & store scriptures you’ve heard & read!
* Knowing God’s word is knowing the truth vs facts *Romans 3:4*
  + God’s word is infallible, complete & totally sufficient for our needs
  + This understanding produces faith that stands on the promises of God in spite of the current situation they face
* God’s word is authority & accomplishes what it promises to do *Isaiah 55:11*
  + Jesus subdued Satan with “it is written”
  + You may have experienced defeat in areas where you lack understanding of God’s word
  + You cannot protect what you do not know belongs to you *John 10:10*
  + You cannot claim what you don’t believe is yours
    - Healing *Isaiah 53:5 James 5:14-15*
    - Deliverance *Matthew 15:26*
    - Blessed (Zoe) life *Jeremiah 29:11 John 15:7 Proverbs 22:4*

Approaching God

• SURRENDER • CONFESSION • RENOUNCE • COMMUNE • STUDY • DECLARE

1 John 5:14 ***This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that is we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.***

* **Surrender** *John 8:47* (Note: a heart surrendered to God willingly goes the will of God. A heart prompted by Satan gratifies the lust of the flesh)
  + To surrender is to acknowledge you need the Savior
  + To surrender is to abandon self- sufficiency
  + We are not designed to live independent of God
  + God created a family- not a slave, robot or pet
  + A heart not surrendered to Christ, rejects Christ

4/21/2020

* **Renounce** (formally declare one’s abandonment of a claim, right or possession)
* **Commune** (to focus on God, converse, talk, often with profound intensity, intimate communication or rapport as sharing your heart & mind with God in prayer)
* **Study** (as you read the Word, the Word reads you)
* **Declare**- John 16:13; we can declare the Word of God as spoken by God no matter the circumstance

Hearing God

JOHN 10:27- John 10:27 My sheep **hear** my voice, and I know them, and they **follow** me

ROMANS 10:17- So then faith **cometh by hearing,** and hearing by the Word of God

JEREMIAH 33:3- **Call** unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

Understanding God

• Luke 11:28 *But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word, and keep it.*

• Isaiah 30:21 *And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.*

• Psalm 32:8-9 *I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will* ***counsel*** *you with my loving eye on you.*

• 2 Timothy 3:16-17 *All scripture is God- breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

• James 1:22 *Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.*

• Psalm 85:8 *I will hear what God the Lord will speak; for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints; but let them not turn again to folly.*

• Psalm 119:105 *Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.*

• James 1:5 *If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.*

• John 14:26 *But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things,* ***and bring all things to your remembrance****, whatsoever I have said unto you.*

First Lesson Summary

• Approach God with confidence

• Revelation 3:20

• Hebrews 11:6

• Hebrews 2:1

• James 1:22

• Isaiah 30:19-22