

“If God doesn’t speak today then the greatest disservice we could ever do to people is to tell them that they can have a personal relationship with God.” – Dallas Willard

God is a communicating God.

When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his **voice**. *John 10:4*

The Lord says, “I will **guide** you along the best pathway for your life. I will **advise** you and watch over you.” *Psalm 32:8*

1 Samuel 30:8

How do we hear the voice of God?

1. Be concerned about God and what He is doing.

Who, then, are those who **fear** the Lord? He will **instruct** them in the **ways** they should choose. *Psalm 25:12*

The **friendship** of the Lord is for those who fear him, and he **makes known** to them his covenant. *Proverbs 25:14*

2. Get super familiar with the Bible.

Your **word** is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Psalm 119:105

Your testimonies are my delight; they are my **counselors**.
Psalm 119:24

Oh how I love your law! It is my **meditation** all the day.
Psalm 119:97

3. Listen to the right people.

“No means of communication between God and us is more commonly used in the Bible or the history of the church than the voice of a definite, individual human being.” – Dallas Willard

4. Slow down.

Her sister, Mary, **sat** at the Lord’s feet, **listening** to what he **taught**. But Martha was **distracted** by the big dinner she was preparing...But the Lord said to her, “My dear Martha, you are **worried** and **upset** over all these details! There is only **one thing** worth being concerned about. Mary has **discovered** it and it will not be taken away from her.” *Luke 10:39-42*

“Be **still**, and know that I am God.” *Psalm 46:10*

SG | Small Groups

For the remainder of the summer, use these One Year New Testament questions to discuss with your small group or answer individually. Discussion questions related to the weekend message will resume this fall.

Devotional Thought

It’s been said that one of the most glaring yet overlooked problems in our society today is the lack of consideration for how our actions and attitudes affect others. We are so consumed with our own comfort and our own way that we often forget the need to serve others.

As you read God’s word this week, consider how your life affects the lives of those around you. Carefully, determine if you need to adjust your actions and attitudes so they have a positive impact on others.

August 13: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

How can you build others up in a loving way? How should you limit your freedom out of sensitivity to others? What is one attitude or action in your life that you could limit in order to benefit and build up others?

August 14/15: 1 Corinthians 9:1-10:13

What is one event in your own extended family history that has influenced your life? When have you avoided doing something because you recalled what the Bible teaches? What promise or warning do you want to remember to help you stand up under temptation this week?

August 16: 1 Corinthians 10:14-11:1

When have you enjoyed doing something that benefited someone else? How does the Christian idea of freedom contrast with society’s idea of freedom? How may seeking the good of other people lead to their coming to Christ?

August 17/18: 1 Corinthians 11:2-34

What matters most to God about your worship to Him? What can you do to personally prepare to have a proper spirit of worship? What advice would you give someone who wants to participate in worship with you?

August 19: 1 Corinthians 12: 1-26

What person you know would be encouraged by the knowledge that God gives a spiritual gift to every believer? If you do not know what your spiritual gift is, what can you do to find out? What can you learn from those who faithfully use their lives to serve others?

Looking for opportunities to make an impact this summer?

Here are a few ideas...

- Nursing homes are always looking for families to come in and spend time with their residents.
- Write out thank you notes and drop them off to our police and fire departments.
- Write thank you notes for those currently serving in our military. (Drop these off at the info desk at your campus and we’ll mail them for you!)
- Do yardwork or household chores for an elderly couple in need.
- Serve your own family by doing their chores and/or helping them with an extra task.