



DISCUSSION GUIDE

THIS WEEK: Various Scripture – What the voice of Jesus won't say

GETTING STARTED

What is one thing you are thankful for this week and what is one thing we can pray for you this week?

Remind each other of our simple expectations for meeting together

What are some "negative" messages/voices that come from others, or our culture that we recognize are harmful to us? How do we recognize that they are harmful?

QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?

What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

What do you wish Dave expanded more on, or feel left out?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS [various Scripture]

Read together, take turns, slowly read the following Scripture used in the message, then discuss.

1 Thessalonians 5:19

* Why is it important for us to hold in tension listening to God while at the same time testing what we hear?

* In what way can we "quench" the Holy Spirit because we are fearful about how others have abused or misused phrases like "I've heard from God"?

* What kinds of tests, gauges would you use whether something is from God or not?

Three things God will never say to you or do...

1. Tell you to disregard His moral will.

* In what way is this a good gauge to measure whether you are hearing from God? In what way is this consistent with God's character and nature.

* Dave used the example of the moral commandment which says, "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor". Can you think of another example of a moral command in Scripture we can use to gauge whether this is from Jesus or not?

2. Create more confusion or anxiety rather than peace

There are a lot of competing voices to God's. Scripture alone recounts at least three things; our flesh, the world, and the devil.

Read 1 John 2:15-19

John 8:44

Genesis 3:1-4

1 John 4:7-8

Revelation 12:10

Now read; 1 Corinthians 14:33, John 14:27; Philippians 4:6-9

How can we grow more attune to what Jesus is saying to us by distinguishing between His voice that brings peace, rather than the voices of anxiety, fear and confusion?

3. Not speak words of condemnation

Dave made a distinction between conviction and condemnation. Why is this important?

Read Hebrews 12:10-11

In what ways does God discipline us for His good and for His redemptive purposes? How is this different than condemnation?

Read Romans 8:1

What if we truly lived out of this conviction about what Christ has done for us and said about us?

Read Ephesians 1:4-5

How is God's voice always consistent with His great love for you in Christ?

In what ways can we deal with the tension of our fallen-ness, sinfulness and His voice from Eph. 1:4-5?

Silently read the contrasting voices from the chart below:

CHOOSE WHICH VOICE YOU WILL LISTEN TO – CHOOSE WISELY	
<u>GOD'S VOICE</u>	<u>OTHER VOICES</u>
LEADS YOU	DRIVE YOU
REASSURES YOU	SCARE YOU
REFRESHES YOU	DRAIN YOU
CALMS YOU	WORRY YOU
COMFORTS YOU	AGGRAVATE YOU
STRENGTHENS YOU	QUESTION YOU
HEALS YOU	HURT YOU
ENCOURAGES YOU	DISCOURAGE YOU
GIVES YOU	STEAL YOUR
HOPE	PEACE & JOY

In what practical way can we remind ourselves about how Jesus will speak to us verses what He will not say?

What may God be asking you to change, do differently, repent of, pray about as a result of engaging in our discussion?

How can we pray for each other?