

Listening to God

September 27, 2020



Optional: Each week during this seven-week series, open your meeting by having one or two group members share their testimony of how God saved them.

Open: What's a lesson about life that you learned from your family while growing up?

Read & Discuss: 2 Timothy 3:14-17

1. In verse 14 Paul encourages Timothy to "continue in what he [has] learned," in part because of whom he learned it from. Why would Paul refer to this source as a relevant reason to continue in faith in Christ? Thinking back to when you first believed, what persuaded you to embrace the Gospel? What helps you to be persuaded today?
2. Paul also says that Timothy became "acquainted" with Scripture from childhood (v. 15). What was your experience with Scripture growing up? How do you think that experience shaped your life? What have you seen to be effective in helping children become and *remain* grounded in their faith in Christ?
3. Verse 16 says that "all Scripture is breathed out by God." If you were talking with a new believer, how would you explain this process? How should the truth of this verse affect how we approach Scripture when we open up our Bibles? What should we do when we read Scripture but find it dry, as though God is distant and is not speaking to us?
4. In your experience, how have you found Scripture to be "profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" (v. 16)? How can we make sure that each of these benefits mentioned in this verse are actually occurring in our lives?
5. How do the Scriptures lead to us being "complete" (v. 17)? How have you seen neglecting the Bible interfere with us being "equipped for every good work"? What are some other benefits that you have found from reading and engaging with the Bible?

Apply: What can you do to better listen to God through the Scriptures this week?

Pray: Ask God to deepen our love for His Word and give us an eagerness to embrace all He has to say.

This Week: In order to be prepared to disciple someone, spend some time this week filling in the answers for Chapter 4 (pages 15-18) of *Just for Starters*. Then memorize 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

2 Timothy 3:14-17

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (ESV)