

SESSION 7 LISTENING GUIDE
UNDERSTAND IT. LIVE IT.

When reading the Bible, one of the biggest mistakes we make is focusing on the things we don't understand.

It's best to start with the things you do understand.

Once you do understand it, it's time to go use it.

“Preaching is not talking to people about the Bible; it is talking to people about themselves from the Bible... The goal is to teach people how to live a life that reflects the values, principles, and truths of the Bible.” Andy Stanley

At some point it's time to stop talking about the Bible.

Let's not just grow in what we know. We need to grow in what we live.

John 16:7 & 13

But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you... When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth.

Holy Spirit = Helper

What is the Holy Spirit helping us to do?

Understand and live the truth from the Bible.

You don't have to be smart to read the Bible. You just have to be surrendered.

Ask for help. Start with the Helper (the Holy Spirit).

The power for the Word to go deeper in your life is the Holy Spirit.

- Who God is.
- What God has done.
- Who we are.
- What we do.

2 Timothy 3:17

God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

God waits for us to respond.

SESSION 7

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Danny started his teaching by saying *“When reading the Bible, one of the biggest mistakes we make is focusing on the things we don’t understand.”* He said starting this way can be a “distraction” and “smokescreen.” What does this mean? What might we be “hiding” from?
- 2) What are some of the basic teachings in the Bible that you DO understand, but struggle to live? Make a list as a group. (*The example Danny used in his teaching was “Love One Another”*)
- 3) What is a “fat” Christian?
- 4) What is the difference between these two statements:
Preaching is not talking to people about the Bible.
Preaching is talking to people about themselves from the Bible.
Is this a new way of thinking about preaching/Bible Study? Do you think most people think about preaching in this way? Why or why not?
- 5) Practice applying God’s Word. Read Psalm 23:1-3, Romans 15:13 & 2 Corinthians 12:9. Then answer the following questions about each verse/passage so you know how to apply it:
 - Who is God?
 - What has God done?
 - Who are you?
 - What are you to do?
- 6) Danny asked the question “can you be a Christian and not read your Bible?” What do you think?
- 7) What does it look like for us to commit yourself to His Word?