

Developing Your Spiritual Life

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Listening Guide

This Listening Guide is designed to help you ask questions and take notes on what you're learning. The process will accomplish two things: first, it will help process the information in the lecture by keeping your mind engaged with the material. Second, it will allow you to collect your notes in one place for a summary of the lesson's content. If you choose to do additional study or want to teach the material to others, you will have a thorough set of notes to guide you.

You may print these Listening Guide pages separately and complete the information as you read, listen to, or watch the lessons. Or as an alternative, you can fill in the fields in this digital version and save to your computer once you are finished.

I. Does God Want to Know Me?

[1] What is the core belief of the Christian faith?

[2] Briefly summarize each of the three movements of the Bible's grand story.

[3] Who will ultimately redeem all who have accepted Jesus as Savior?

[4] In one sentence summarize your impression of God's ultimate answer to the separation between Himself and humankind.

[5] What is your response to the amazing truth that God has made it possible to be restored to a healthy relationship with Him?

[6] What do you think makes a person a Christian?

[7] How do you think most people in your culture would respond to Nicodemus's comment?

[8] What are some ways people today "hide" from God?

[9] Do you think that if someone becomes a Christian their tendency to "go astray" leaves them?

[10] Why do you think that tendency does or does not leave a Christian person?

[11] What do you think it means to "fellowship" with God?

[12] Have you ever experienced fellowship with God?

[13] Do you ever feel a need or a desire to be made alive again on the inside?

[14] If so, what arouses that feeling in you?

[15] Do you agree with Pascal's view of each person?

[16] If so, what are some things that people who don't follow God use to fill that hole?

[17] Do you ever find yourself trying to fill that hole with things other than God? What do you use?

[18] Do you believe everyone has sinned?

[19] How would you explain what sin is to a child?

[20] How do you think most people you know relate to the idea that we all have sinned?

[21] In your opinion what makes it hard and/or easy to believe the gospel?

[22] In your opinion do you think most people would act on the knowledge of what Christ did if they understood it?

[23] Explain your answer in a short paragraph.

[24] Are you ready to make the decision to begin a relationship with Him? Why or why not?

[25] If you haven't prayed that prayer do you think you ever will?

[26] If not, why not?

II. What does it mean to be born again?

[27] Is this view that salvation is a point-of-beginning consistent with your understanding of what it means to be a Christian? In what way(s) is it similar or different from your view?

[28] If you are a Christian do you believe your maturity years and your chronological years as a Christian are appropriately matched?

[29] Do you feel any desire or need to grow as a Christian?

[30] Does this every-aspect approach to Christian living resonate with you?

[31] Are you prepared to be this committed and involved in your Christian life?

[32] Do you want to take this course as an academic exercise or are you ready to apply what it teaches and become involved in Spiritual growth?

III. How Do We Start Growing in Christ?

[33] How would you describe your “appetite” for being the person God wants you to be?

[34] As you read the four areas of spiritual communication does any one of them stand out as most appealing or least appealing to you?

[35] Are you ready to begin the spiritual formation process by surrendering yourself to God for what He is going to do?

[36] In a short paragraph, describe what you believe will happen in your life if you do that.

[37] Review the Lesson Objectives.

Can you explain the motivation for wanting to grow spiritually?

Describe how you can be sure you are a Christian.

Reflection

Record one new fact or insight you discovered in this lesson.

Application

There are two main applications called for in this lesson:

- If you are not a Christian already, the point of this lesson is to encourage you become one by accepting God's grace and forgiveness, and trusting Christ with your life.
- If you are a Christian the point of the lesson is that you become involved in actively growing as a Christian.

Have you made either of those applications?