Day 10 Discovering Specific Good News

**Main Points and Discussion**

**The truths shared in the previous chapter can give us faith throughout our lives.** Just knowing that God loves us, is in us, and is for us not against us changes everything. Added to that we have the honor of hearing from God about specific problems that we face. Yet, many believers are not sure how to tap into this information.

1. *“Today God speaks to believers through His Son directly. We don’t need a prophet or an angel to bring a message to us from God. Each of us has individual communication with the very God who created the universe.”*

**Discuss:** The author compares the way Christians flock to so-called prophets or seek angelic visions in order to hear from God as “idolatry”. Why is it so important to recognize the difference between how God spoke before Christ died and rose again to how He speaks to us now?

1. **Under the Old Covenant, God guided His people by the law. Now, he leads us by His by His Spirit.** We aren’t commanded to led by the Spirit, we ARE led by the Spirit. We don’t need to “try” to be led by the Spirit; we can have faith that we are.

**Discuss:** What difference does it make when facing an overwhelming situation to know that God is leading us by His Spirit instead of us “trying” to be led by the Spirit? What is the difference between being driven/guided by law and being led by the Spirit? Can you give an example?

1. **Many Christians can read Psalm 23 and be comforted by knowing that Jesus is their Shepherd, but at the same time have in their minds that God is also a sheepdog nipping at their heels. Discuss** the mental and spiritual confusion this can cause. How might the two opposing views of God as a Shepherd or Sheepdog interfere with us discovering specific good news to help us in our difficulties?
2. **If you have been studying the gospel of grace, you have learned that we are taught right from wrong by His grace and not by the law.** In the context of Titus 2, it is speaking of forsaking ungodliness and living godly in this life.

**Discuss:** Sometimes God corrects us by His grace. How might He use His gracious instruction to help us to begin to experience success in what is so frustrating for us? (Consider the example of what God spoke to Cathy about her marriage.)

1. **The author gives two examples, one personal, and one of a friend who faced a similar devastating situation.** They both needed grace to deal with the pain of being wounded by Christian friends, and they both sought out His grace to help them in their time of need. God spoke to each of them in completely different ways. So it is for us all. Sometimes our experience is not evident to us in the pages of Scripture, and yet we know from Scripture that God’s grace is sufficient for us during suffering.

**Discuss:** If you’d like, share a difficult time when perhaps you thought you couldn’t go on another minute or day, but when you reached out to God, he imparted grace in your time of need. You don’t have to share specific personal information.

1. **Sometimes our circumstances are way too personal to share or we share and end up more frustrated.** We can rest knowing that we have an anointing that will teach us all things. Of course, it will not contradict the written word of God, but He will teach us what we need to know. Discuss.
2. **The written word of God has much to teach us.** God does speak to us as we read it. Sometimes we get busy, but the minute we pick it up and read, we are blessed. When needing specific help in our overwhelming situations, we can run into His word and be blessed and strengthened for our journey.

**Discuss:** Why is it important to read a good translation of the Bible verses only reading a paraphrase?

1. **Being able to receive wisdom from God when we lack it is one of the more encouraging graces we possess.**

**Discuss:** The author gives two examples of how God gave her wisdom and knowledge when she asked, both of them leading her to being healed physically. Have you ever had an experience in which God showed you something you could do or should stop doing that brought a solution to what seemed to an impossible situation?

**Discuss**

How can the information in this chapter help us receive specific good news about our situation? How might hearing this specific good news positively affect what we are facing? How can we take steps of faith after it has come to us through hearing God speak to us?