

THE BIG IDEA CURRICULUM
Is God Speaking to Me?
Sermon 1.5.10
Wayne Krause

Small Group Study for Week of May 22-28

The Big Idea

While some just want God to be Father Christmas and just show us what to do, God wants us to change (our characters our hearts) into the kind of people who discern the will of God.

Comment: For the first time in the history of Christianity, the phrases God, “told me,” “spoke to me,” “ showed me,” “ wants me to” etc are used as part of everyday language by some Christians. On the other hand, great Christian leaders of the past such as Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Wesley etc rarely if ever used such phrases.

Questions:

1. How do you feel when you are in a conversation with someone and they say, “ God told me...?”
2. How can such phrases be used to control people?

Group Reads: Ezekiel 13: 1-7 page 572 compare with Exodus 20:7 page 52

3. According to these verses, how important is it to be absolutely certain that our thoughts and words are of divine origin, before we attach the name of God to them? If I attach God’s name to something I have said and it isn’t from God, what am I doing?
4. What is the difference between saying, “I feel,” “I think,” “I believe,” and my study of the Bible “convinced me,” “I’m convicted,” and “God told me?”
5. How do I make sure that my comments are not my “own imagination? Ezekiel 13:2,3

Group Reads: Romans 12:1,2 page 776

6. What is the motivation for offering ourselves as a living sacrifice? Why is this motivation important? In verse 1 (only,) how does God see our giving ourselves to Him?
7. What does verse 2 say is the way we are to know the will of God for our lives?
8. How do we do what verse 2 tells us we must to know God’s will?
9. Any other observations from the above texts?

Statement:

“In general the Bible does not tell us how to get God’s guidance. It tells us the kind of person who discerns the will of God. The Bible continually tells us, here is the kind of character, here is the kind of heart that works through these things.

10. Discuss
11. What then do I need to do to become the person described above?