

CAN YOU HEAR WHAT GOD IS SAYING?

with Herman Ivey

FOCUS VERSES

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

James 1:22-25

DISCUSSION

- 1. Discuss Herman's statement that "It's one thing to know Jesus, it's another thing to be known by Jesus." (See Galatians 4:9.)
 - a. What does that statement mean to you?
 - b. If you ran into Jesus on the street tomorrow, what kind of an impression do you think you would make?
- 2. "God is patient, but He doesn't change His mind." (See 2 Peter 3:9.)
 - a. Have you ever felt a calling or command from God that you really didn't want to answer?
 - b. Why were you resistant to obeying that command?
 - c. Did you wait a while hoping that maybe God's plan for you would change into something easier or more lucrative?
- 3. Have you ever been angry at God?
 - a. What was going on in your life that inspired that anger?



	b. How did the situation resolve—did God respond to you in some way?
4.	When are you most likely to throw a "pity party" for yourself?
	a. Do you seem to be most self-pitying when it comes to a certain aspect of your life—work, marriage, fatherhood, finances, etc.?
	b. Is there a course of action you could be taking that would resolve the reasons for your self-pity, but you've been resistant to it?
5.	Would you say you have trouble hearing God's voice?
	a. Have you ever thought about why that might be difficult for you?
6.	Think for a moment about how you usually pray. (See Matthew 6:5-15.) a. Are your prayers mostly requests?
	b. Are you giving thanks to God?
	c. Are you offering to do things for God?
	d. Do you ever allow enough silence to hear God speaking back to you?
7•	Think of a person in your life who really made an impression on you by leading through example rather than through their words. (See 1 Timothy 4:12.) a. What sorts of things did this person do that impressed you?
	b. Were you inspired to follow the example they set?
	c. How did you view them differently from people who were more likely to lead by speaking or commanding others?