**RECEIVE**

Decisions that Encourage Discipleship

Choosing to intentionally grow into Christlikeness.

*“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” Hosea 4:6*

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**Unit 101 Choosing to leave the place where Jesus finds me.**

*(Luke 9:23a) “if anyone will come after me…”*

Class 101-1: Deciding to Believe & Trust…Class 101-2: Deciding to Hear & Pray

…Class 101-3: Deciding to Risk & Receive: and tonight…

**Class 101-4: Deciding to Continue, & Listen & Wait**

**Hebrews 4:15 *“For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.”***

\*\*A Personal Story

**Hebrews 2:18 *“For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.”***

**Deciding to Continue**

…We continue to study temptation because the evil one does not stop tempting!!!

[**I John 2:13**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?book_id=69&chapter=2&verse=13&version=49&context=verse)**-14 *“I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning, I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one, I have written to you, children, because you know the Father. I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning, I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.”***

…We continue to study temptation because we cannot succeed with the Spirit!!!

**Romans 8:12-13 *“… brothers and sisters, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you are living in accord with the flesh, you are going to die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.***

\*\*As we mature in Christ, we do not have to give in to sin. (I Jn. 2:1)

\*\*It is through the Spirit of God in us that we succeed in temptation

\*\*We do not have to sin, and Jesus is our advocate when we do (I Jn. 2:2)

\*\*The Armor of God is available for success (Ephesians 6:10-18)

\*\*There is a blessing for those who persevere (James 1:12-15)

…We continue to study temptation because victory is essential to our maturity!!!

**Deciding to Listen & Wait.**

\*\* Often, we need a desire to hear before we recognize God’s voice:

**John 5:30 *“I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.”***

**Isaiah 30:21 *“Your ears will hear a word behind you, "This is the way, walk in it," whenever you turn to the right or to the left.”***

\*\* The Example of Jesus is one of waiting and listening for God’s voice

\*\* The Promise of Scripture is that God will speak to us

\*\* God is not limited to any specific way in which He speaks

**(dreams, visions, angels, teaching, miracles, signs/wonders, God’s Word, etc.)**

Take a moment, and try to recall how God may have spoken or led you in the past:

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\*\*Often, we often need to relax and wait for God’s timing to hear God’s voice:

**Psalm 46:10a *“Stop striving and know that I am God…”***

***I Thessalonians 5:16-18 “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.”***

**James 1:5-8** *“****But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”***

\*\*Often, we need to prepare ourselves to hear from the Lord:

\*\*Is there sin or self-centeredness that would prohibit me from hearing?

\*\*Are there tools that could help me hear such as paper, pen, Bible, etc.?

\*\*Do I have an expectation that I will hear?

\*\*Do I believe that God rewards those who seek Him (Hebrews 11:6)

\*\*Often, we need to find something productive to do as an alternative to sin!!!

HAVE YOU INVITED THE SPIRIT OF GOD INTO YOUR LIFE?

**GO FOLLOW JESUS THIS WEEK!!!**