

- I. ONE THING—The One Thing that I'd like to take away from today's class and believe God to accomplish in my life is:

II. RECEIVING AND APPLYING GOD'S WORD:

- A. What have you been seeking other than God to meet your legitimate needs for 1) love and acceptance, 2) significance, worth and value and 3) emotional safety and security? Thank God for pointing that out to you and believe now that He alone can meet your deepest needs.
- B. Practice the presence of the Lord each day by coming into His presence with praise and thanksgiving and committing to live with Him as your source of love, joy and peace. Talk to Him throughout your day. Ask Him about things that puzzle or trouble you. When love, joy and peace is no longer evident, take a moment to be still, hear from the Lord about where you stepped out of fellowship, confess your sin and receive forgiveness, and submit once again to the Spirit's control.

- C. Invest some study time in the handout *Tools & Techniques: Listening To God*. Ask God to bless your spiritual ears and to give you a willing spirit that will do whatever he tells you to do. Take note of any dullness of hearing or resistance to obey. Be honest with the Lord and He will meet you right where you are in this listening relationship with Him. Journal about your listening journey, either thanking Him for ears that hear, or asking Him to heal your deafness.
- D. Spend time beholding Jesus this week in your quiet meeting place with Him. Here are some suggestions to build intimacy with Him.
- Buy a journal or legal pad and record your times with Him.
  - Ask Him to open the eyes of your heart (Eph. 1:18) and to open your ears that you may hear His voice (John 10:27).
  - Enter His presence with praise and thanksgiving (Ps. 100:4). Ask Him to put a song on your heart for you to listen to with Him. Let the song wash over you. Pray back the lyrics to Him. Notice which phrases jump out at you. Ponder them in your heart today. You may want to write them in your journal.
  - Let your thoughts and concerns come to mind. Imagine yourself giving each one to Jesus for His safe keeping (1 Peter 5:7). Ask Him if He wants to speak on any of these today. Let Him pray through you His words of surrender, assurance and peace. Ask Him for any other guidance or assurance from His word about this issue. Go to the passage that comes to mind. Write down His word to you. Believe that He is in charge of your other issues and will let you know what you need to do or believe about each.
  - If you do not sense Him speaking on your specific issues, believe that He does want to feed you from His word. Go to the passage He puts on your mind. Read until His word speaks to you. Write down what He says. Thank Him for that word. Pray that He will “make that word flesh” in you today.
  - Repeat as often as you can this week. See if there is a pattern about what the Father is saying to you. Thank Him for your hearing heart.