



Harvest Bible Chapel
Small Group Questions
December 13, 2009

The Illumination of Scripture
Psalm 119:97-103, Psalm 1, Joshua 1:8

1. Did you (or do you) ever get love letters from the one you love when you were separated? Did you keep them? Did you read them more than once? What did you feel when you were reading them?
2. Discuss this definition of the Illumination of Scripture: *“The work of the Holy Spirit helping the hearer or reader to understand its meaning and be convinced of its truth.”*
3. Is it possible for the Spirit of God to lead us contrary to the Word of God? Have you ever felt like you were being led to do something clearly forbidden in God’s Word? Whatever you were feeling, it was not the Spirit of God. How does believing in that God’s Spirit wrote God’s Word help us in decision making? Are there any past decisions that you once thought were the result of being led by God’s Spirit that you now know were God’s Word?
4. Most Christians feel pretty guilty about how much time they spend alone with God meditating on His Word. How much time do you spend meditating on God’s Word? What is the biggest excuse for not spending more time in God’s Word? How can you change that this week?
5. At what stage of feeding on God’s Word are you?
 - Vegetable stage – You know it’s good for you but not too enjoyable.
 - Cereal stage – You know it’s nourishing but it’s dry and uninteresting.
 - Hot fudge Sundae Stage – You crave it. You can’t get enough. You look forward to more.
6. Meditation is the process of digesting God’s Word, concentrating on it, investigating it, and remembering it when you need it. How does this change the way you have viewed reading the Bible, having devotions, or memorizing verses? Does it free you or make you feel more guilty? Why?
7. Pick one of the following scriptures and practice investigating God’s Word using the SPACEPETS acrostic. (Mark 14:3-9, Phillipians 2:5-11, Proverbs 16:1-7)
Do you see...
 - Sin to avoid?
 - Promise to Claim?
 - Attitude to adjust?
 - Command to obey?
 - Error to avoid?
 - Prayer to pray?
 - Example to follow?
 - Truth to believe?
 - Something to praise God for?

8. Discuss the importance of each element of meditating on God's Word. How have you found these elements help in getting into God's Word and getting God's Word into you?
 - Read it through.
 - Write it down.
 - Pray it up
 - Live it out
 - Pass it on

9. Will you make the commitment to spend at least 5 minutes every day for the rest of your life meditation on God's Word? Set an appointment with God and keep it this week by specifying the time and location for each day?