



# Learning to Live Vertically

## WEEK 2 DISCUSSION GUIDE

### OVERVIEW

In this message of the series, *Vertical: Living A Godward Life*, we will learn how to live life vertically rather than horizontally. We will discuss the importance of depending on and connecting with God.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

In this life we will face many situations that require our input, inspiration, and knowledge. As Christians, we need to make sure that we know to look up and connect with God. He is the One who will guide us through.

### Our Process

In 1 Corinthians 12:14-20, we see that every member of the body of Christ is significant and plays a vital role in building the kingdom of God.

→ How have you seen this to be true?

*Ephesians 4:11-12: And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.*

→ How are you fulfilling the role God has given you within the body of Christ?

Every time you read, meditate on, or confess the Word of God, you are putting on the glasses of faith. But God does not just want us talking to Him; He desires a relationship with us and wants to dialogue with us.

## Four Ways God Communicates With Us

### 1. Verses

One major way to know what God says to us is to read the Bible.

Matthew 4:4: *But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' "*

→ Do you set aside time to read the Bible daily? How can you start this spiritual habit today, if you do not already?

### 2. Viscerally

Another way that God speaks to us is internally; we feel it in our innermost being. Jeremiah 20:9b: *But His word was in my heart like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, and I could not.*

→ Share a time when you could feel God communicating with you so strongly that you felt it internally.

### 3. Vocally

Sometimes we may audibly hear the voice of God speaking to us.

1 Kings 19:12-13: *and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"*

→ Have you experienced hearing the audible voice of God speaking to you?

### 4. Visually

The Lord also speaks to us through visions. Job 33:14-16: *For God may speak in one way, or in another, yet man does not perceive it. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls upon men, while slumbering on their beds, then He opens the ears of men, and seals their instruction.*

→ Has God ever spoken to you in a dream?

→ How can we distinguish the voice of God from other voices?

## LIFE CHALLENGE

Remember that God desires a relationship with us. He wants to talk to and with us. Design a plan to set aside time to read the Bible daily and allow time to communicate with God.

## PRAYER REQUESTS & CLOSE IN PRAYER