Hearing God’s Voice in the Pages of Scripture
Antony Billington

Session #1
The Word the Bible Speaks

How has God disclosed himself in Scripture, and how does that shape the way we approach the Bible?

Three Psalms

Psalm 1
Delight, not Duty

Psalm 19
Transformation, not Information
Psalm 19:7–9

‘The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of the Lord are sure, and all of them are righteous.’

Three Psalms

Psalm 1
Delight, not Duty

Psalm 19
Transformation, not Information

Psalm 119
Relationship, not Relevance

For Reflection

The experience of many Christians is that their reading of the Bible is marked by a sense of ‘duty’ rather than a sense of ‘delight’. Why might this be the case?

UCCF Doctrinal Basis

‘The Bible, as originally given, is the inspired and infallible Word of God. It is the supreme authority in all matters of belief and behaviour.’
Three Convictions

The inspiration the Bible possesses

2 Timothy 3:16–17

‘All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.’

2 Peter 1:20–21

‘Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation of things. For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.’

What Scripture says, God says

Law of Moses = Law of the Lord

Words of Jeremiah = Words of the Lord
Three Convictions

The inspiration the Bible possesses

The infallibility the Bible shows
Three Convictions

The inspiration the Bible possesses
The infallibility the Bible shows
The authority the Bible carries

For Reflection

Inspired. Infallible. Authoritative.
What do you make of these words?
To what extent do you find it easy or difficult to accept them of the Bible?
Why does it matter that Christians affirm them?
Three Questions

What is hermeneutics?

Hermeneutics

What the text meant

What the text means

Three Questions

What is hermeneutics?

Why is it important?
John 2:1–11

PUDSEY BEAR IS A FUNDAMENTALIST EVANGELICAL!

This early photo of old fuzzy friend depicts the day he took Matt 5:29 literally.

(He is shown weeping upon realisation that he had plucked out the wrong eye. However, he sewed it back and pulled out the other one.)

SO SUPPORT THIS THEOLOGICALLY-SOUND BEAR TODAY

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED
John 2
2:1–11
Water into wine
2:12–21
Cleansing of the temple

If anyone ever asks you, "What Would Jesus Do?"
Remind them that flipping over tables and
chasing people with a whip is within the realm of possibilities.

Three Questions
What is hermeneutics?
Why is it important?

Three Questions
What is hermeneutics?
Why is it important?
Where is its focus of interest?
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word alive
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