There are four distinct ways the Lord speaks to us. These are important for you to know:

1. Through His Word
2. Through prayer
3. In circumstances
4. Through his people, the church

Hearing Jesus’ words is not enough. We need to do what he says

a. Matthew 7:24-25
b. As a follower of Christ put yourself in settings where you can hear the teachings of Christ and watch him change lives.
c. The early followers of Christ met together in large gatherings and in small groups. You need both. Get connected now!!
d. Set aside 5-15 minutes for hearing time. As you learn to hear the Word of God, you need to develop the habit of doing it right away. Jesus expects you to act on what you know.

Choose a bible reading plan. #Journey Through the Word; Facebook Group, sign up to receive daily emails, or choose one to your liking.

Pray before you read
When something stands out to you, underline it in your bible. This way you can revisit it when you want to.
Write down what stood out to you.
Pray

Left Foot: Be Blessed (happy)

a. Matthew 5:1-12
   a. Each of the nine statements in this section begins with Jesus saying; “blessed.”
   b. Blessed is also translated happy, but the English word happy is too shallow for what the word means.
   c. Island of Cyprus example
      i. When you have it, you are fortunate and satisfied and you don’t have to look elsewhere for it.
      ii. OT - meant you were approved by God. In other words, you can’t be a blessed person without being approved by God
b. According to Matthew 9, who is blessed?
   a. Blessed people are those who realize they have nothing to bring to God, the poor in spirit.
Right Foot: Go to the Source
a. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
   a. God Breathed, means “inspired by God” It means that God communicated his message through the thoughts and vocabulary of the human writers.
   b. It doesn’t mean that he dictated it, but it does mean that God directed the writer even in the selection of his words so that God’s intent and purpose come through.
b. What are the four ways this passage can help you?
   a. Teaching
   b. Rebuking
   c. Correcting
   d. Training in Righteousness

Left Foot: See Jesus in Scripture
   a. V.44 says; “everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the psalms.” Then v. 45 says; “He opened their minds so they could understand the scriptures.”
      i. Two important things to know
         1. Jesus pointed his followers to read the scriptures to understand who he was
         2. Jesus helped them understand by opening their minds
         3. Five main parts of the OT - Pentateuch, Historical Books, Poetic Books, Major Prophets, Minor Prophets
         4. Five main parts of the NT - Gospels, Acts, Epistles, General Epistles and Revelation
   b. Jesus said in essence, all scripture points to me.
   c. Hebrews puts it this way; “The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.”

Right Foot: Overcome Temptation
a. Matthew 4:1-11
   a. Jesus doesn’t just talk about what people ought to do. He shows us how to live and then tells us to do the same.
      i. Its amazing that the devil used scripture on Jesus. The devil knows how powerful scripture is, but he did something that you should see. He quoted scripture to make it say what he wanted it to say rather than what God intended it to mean.

Left Foot: Be Productive
a. Luke 8:5-15
   a. Jesus teaches in Luke 8 about the soil of our hearts. There are four kinds:
      i. Hard ground, rocky soil, thorny soil, and good soil.
#Follow17 - Wednesday Night Discipleship