

What God May Say - So?

But prove yourselves doers of the word and not merely hearers who delude themselves. (James 1:22, NASB)

So, this concludes our series on What God May Say. Can you relate to this discipline of asking God what we need and then listening for His response? You may want to try this if you do not have something better. If so, what is the next step?

I was convicted after journaling What God May Say. The next section became my response to what God may be telling me. I realize this is a team event—you are responding by the power of the Holy Spirit. Someone once said, "It is not what we don't know that trips us up; it is what we do know and don't do that causes problems."

I wanted to go on record that I had felt this nudge from God, and now I needed His strength and power to do what He says.

The old hymn Jesus Loves Me, This I Know was written by Anna Warner in 1869. Remember those beautiful words?

Jesus loves me; this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Sing along, people. How refreshing those words still are today. It is interesting in reciting those words that the instruction shifts when you place a comma in the right place:

Jesus loves me. This I know for the Bible tells me, so. So what are we going to do about it?

Now doing is not performance or trying to obligate God to take notice and then bless us. The doing can be very simple—blessing others because we have been blessed. I think you know what I mean.

Send that note, call your friend and encourage them, read that book for the 30th time to your autistic granddaughter, unload the dishwasher, overlook an offense, and thank God for your thorns and blessings.

Have you got it? We know simple tasks and hard ones, but we get to do them through the power of the Holy Spirit. Our response means everything. Paul's letter to the Philippian church reminded us that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. It also means we can do nothing without Christ strengthening us.

So, we move forward. God promised the Israelites the land, but nothing happened until they stepped into the river. Then God provided dry land and a way through. God will do the same for us today when we step out in faith.

So, it is our turn and our chance to make a difference. See you at the finish line.

Prayer – Thank you, Jesus. You are with us as we respond.

READING - James 1:19-25; James 2:17-26; Titus 3:3-5; Galatians 2:19-21

OPENING QUESTIONS: What does saying, "I was convicted," mean? Can you give an example in your life?

1 Pead James 1:10 25 How is God's Word implanted in you? Why is it important

an	d what does it show when you become an effective doer, not just a forgetful hearence verse 25)?
	Read James 2:17-26. Our response is important, not out of obligation but of worshipd gratitude. How do you see this tension between faith and works being resolved?
Wh	Read Titus 3:3-9 and Galatians 2:19-21. Titus talks about God's action in saving us. by did he save us? Galatians talks about our response in faith. Have you thought being crucified with Christ? What does a life of faith look like?
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