

## **OPEN**

What is a form of Bible interaction that you find really helps you learn and apply what the Bible says?

## **STUDY**

One of the primary practices of a believer is to spend time interacting with the Scriptures. And one of the primary ways God-followers of the Old Testament sought to get God's thoughts into their minds was the daily practice of something known as the "Shema." The word "Shema" translates means to hear or listen. The words of the "Shema" can be found in Deuteronomy 6:4-5. Look it up and give the "Shema" a read.

1. What is the first word of the "Shema"?

2. What does the "Shema" declare about God?

3. How do the words of Jesus in Mark 12:29-31 related to the words of the "Shema"?

4. What did Jesus say about listening in Matthew 11:15? What did he mean by this statement?

5. What did Paul encourage Timothy to practice according to 1 Timothy 4:13?

## **APPLY**

How often do we as believers spend time simply listening to God's Word being read? If not very much, why not? What keeps us from taking time to hear God's Word proclaimed?

When you hear scripture read, how does it impact you? Do you find it invigorating? A little boring? Somewhere in the middle?

If there is very little listening to scripture going on in a person's life, what are some ideas (be creative!) to help them hear God's Word being read?

While we are listening to God's Word being read, what should we be hoping to happen? Is there anything that might be done to enhance our listening to the Bible?



## MESSAGE GUIDE

February 2nd, 2020  
Pastor Kurt Staeuble