



Powerful Sword or Pool Noodle?

Hebrews 4:6-13

- 1. Share with the group a time you obeyed your parents, but only when they were watching.**
- 2. Read Heb 4:6-19. What does it mean to “harden your heart”? Who did harden their hearts?**
- 3. Read Heb 4:1-3. What is the opposite of “hardening your heart”?**
- 4. “Today if you hear his voice”. How do you hear God’s voice today?**
- 5. Read 1 Kings 5:1-14. What was the word of God from Elisha to Naaman? How did Naaman react?**

6. What were Naaman's excuses for reacting that way?

7. What did God use to soften Naaman's heart?

8. Do you think it's possible to obey God's Word, whilst having a hard heart? Would this be an act of faith? Discuss.

9. Have you ever changed your mind and decided to obey God's Word after having initially refused? What changed your mind? Discuss.

10. In 2 Kings 5:12, Naaman expressed a "cultural superiority" as reason for not obeying God's Word. Have you ever observed cultural superiority being used this way in the world today?

11. Read Heb 4:12. Share with the group the last time your thoughts or attitudes were judged by God's Word.

12. What can you do to keep you heart soft towards God's Word and to be open to God's transforming power?

13. Pray for each other.