

THE BIG "IF" #1

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*"The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may follow all the words of this law." Deuteronomy 29:29 NIV*

GOD \_\_\_\_\_.

WE \_\_\_\_\_.

AVOID \_\_\_\_\_.

EXPERIENCE \_\_\_\_\_.

*"The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb. By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward." Psalm 19:9-11 NIV*

THE BIG IF ... JESUS ON HEARING & KEEPING

*"He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him." Judas (not Iscariot) \*said to Him, "Lord, what then has happened that You are going to disclose Yourself to us and not to the world?" Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him." John 14:21-23*

IF I KEEP, THEN...

GOD \_\_\_\_\_.

GOD \_\_\_\_\_.

GOD \_\_\_\_\_.

KEEPING MEANS \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 18:3-4 NASB*

*"He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. She had a sister called Mary, who was seated at the Lord's feet, listening to His word. But Martha was distracted..." Luke 10:38-40 NASB*

*"Deal bountifully with Your servant, that I may live and keep Your word. Open my eyes, that I may behold wonderful things from Your law." Psalm 119:17-18 NASB*

APPLY: \_\_\_\_\_.

KEEPING MEANS \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away." Matthew 24:35*

*For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels." Mark 8:35-38 NIV*

APPLY: \_\_\_\_\_.

KEEPING MEANS \_\_\_\_\_.

***“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? <sup>47</sup> As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. <sup>48</sup> They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. <sup>49</sup> But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.” Luke 6:46-49 NIV***

**APPLY:** \_\_\_\_\_.

## **KEEPING MEANS** \_\_\_\_\_.

***Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples: “The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat. So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. Everything they do is done for people to see.”***

*Matthew 23:1-3, 5 NIV*

***“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.” Matthew 23:25-26 NIV***

**APPLY:** \_\_\_\_\_.

## **THE BATTLE RAGES**

***Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’” Genesis 3:1 NIV***

***“The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” Matthew 4:3-5 NIV[a]”***

**FOR DISCUSSION:**

**WHAT IS THE VALUE OF GOD COMMUNICATING CLEARLY TO US THROUGH HIS WORD OR REVELATION?**

**WHAT POLLUTES OR DILUTES THE CLARITY OF WHAT GOD SAYS SO CLEARLY?**

**WHAT BENEFITS OF “KEEPING” HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED IN YOUR LIFE?**

**WHICH ASPECTS OF “KEEPING” WHAT GOD SAYS RESONATE WITH YOU AND WHY?**

**WHAT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD’S REVELATION (THE BIBLE) DO YOU WANT IN THE DAYS AHEAD?**