

*This is what the LORD says-- your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go. If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the sea. Isaiah 48:17-18 (NIV)*

## **Direction**

**Do you want me to teach you what is best? Do you want me to show you the way that you should go? Do you want to experience my peace overflowing your life? Do you want to live a righteous life that is as consistent as the waves of the sea?** Lord, I want to live the life that you have called me to live. I want to go where you guide me. I want to know and do your will. I want to do whatever is pleasing to you. Nothing would give me more peace than knowing that I am doing whatever you ask of me.

**What must you do if you want to live the life that I have called you to live?** You're asking me? I thought you might tell me. **No, you tell me.** First of all, I must answer your call. You called me to come to you. **Yes, I did.** I gave my life to you. I said that I was going to turn away from my sin to follow you as my Savior and Lord. **On that day you began your new life in me.** Yes, I did.

That was the start of my walk with you on my journey through life. **How have you known where to walk? How have you known what to do?** I have followed you. **How have you followed me?** I have followed you to where you have led me. I have been careful to do what you have been asking of me. **How have you been paying attention to me?** I have been listening attentively to you. I have been meeting with you in your word. You have spoken to me through your word. You have helped me to know you. You have helped me to do your will. You have helped me to walk in your ways. You have changed my heart and transformed my mind. You have given me the desire to love, follow, and serve you. Your word has become the subject of my thoughts. Your word has been the content of my prayers. Your word has filled my heart with praise, and thanks, and worship. Your word has sustained my life, overflowed me with your peace, and helped me to live my life fully for you. **Yes, it has.**

*Lord, you are my God. You have redeemed my life. Thank you for teaching me your will and showing me what is best for me. You direct me on the path through life. Help me to pay full attention to you and obey all your commands. Amen*

**Guidance***Paid Attention*

This is what the LORD says-- your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go. If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

NIV

Isaiah 48:17-18

**Guidance***Paid Attention*

Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go. Oh that you had paid attention to my commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea;

ESV

Isaiah 48:17-18

**Guidance***Listened*

This is what the LORD says— your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is good for you and leads you along the paths you should follow. Oh, that you had listened to my commands! Then you would have had peace flowing like a gentle river and righteousness rolling over you like waves in the sea.

NLT

Isaiah 48:17-18

**Guidance***Heeded*

Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, The Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, Who teaches you to profit, Who leads you by the way you should go. Oh, that you had heeded My commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, And your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

NKJV

Isaiah 48:17-18

**Guidance***Paid Attention*

Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the LORD your God, who teaches you for your own good, who leads you in the way you should go. O that you had paid attention to my commandments! Then your prosperity would have been like a river, and your success like the waves of the sea;

NRSV

Isaiah 48:17-18

**Mouth***Had Listened*

with this Message from GOD, your Redeemer, The Holy One of Israel: "I am GOD, your God, who teaches you how to live right and well. I show you what to do, where to go. If you had listened all along to what I told you, your life would have flowed full like a river, blessings rolling in like waves from the sea.

MSG

Isaiah 48:17-18

**Guidance***Hearkened*

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the Lord your God, Who teaches you to profit, Who leads you in the way that you should go. Oh, that you had hearkened to My commandments! Then your peace and prosperity would have been like a flowing river, and your righteousness [the holiness and purity of the nation] like the [abundant] waves of the sea.

AMP

Isaiah 48:17-18

**Guidance***Had Listened*

The Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, says, "I am the Lord your God, who punishes you for your own good and leads you along the paths that you should follow. "Oh, that you had listened to my laws! Then you would have had peace flowing like a gentle river, and great waves of righteousness.

TLB

Isaiah 48:17-18

**Guidance***Paid Attention*

Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, Who leads you in the way you should go. "If only you had paid attention to My commandments! Then your well-being would have been like a river, And your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

NASB

Isaiah 48:17-18

**Guidance***Obeded*

This is what the LORD, who saves you, the Holy One of Israel, says: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to do what is good, who leads you in the way you should go. If you had obeyed me, you would have had peace like a full-flowing river. Good things would have flowed to you like the waves of the sea.

NCV

Isaiah 48:17-18

# Paid Attention

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Guidance – Isaiah 48:17-18

**In Context:** *Read Isaiah 48*

### Begin With Prayer:

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

### Meditating On God’s Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

This is what the LORD says-- your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go. If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the sea. Isaiah 48:17-18 (NIV)

### Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

This is what | the LORD says | -- your Redeemer, | the Holy One | of Israel: | "I am | the LORD | your God, | who teaches you | what is best | for you, | who directs you | in the way | you should go. | If only | you had | paid attention | to my commands, | your peace | would have been | like a river, | your righteousness | like the waves | of the sea. Isaiah 48:17-18 (NIV)

### Praying The Scripture:

***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, you are my God. You have redeemed my life. Thank you for teaching me your will and showing me what is best for me. You direct me on the path through life. Help me to pay full attention to you and obey all your commands. Amen

### What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How are you making sure that you are paying attention to the Lord and obeying His commands?

What will you miss out on if you fail to pay attention to the Lord and obey His commands?

**How does paying attention to the Lord and obeying His commands place Him in charge of your life?**

How can a lack of peace be a signal that what you are about to do is not the Lord’s will?

**When have you failed to pay attention to your lack of peace about a decision and suffered for it?**

**How has paying attention to the Lord and obeying His commands brought peace into your life?**

How has the Lord shown you what is best for you as you have paid attention to Him?

### Living It Out:

***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Pay attention to the Lord and obey His commands so that He can teach you what is best for you.

### Seeing It Happen:

***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will teach you what is best for you as you pay attention to Him and obey His commands.

### Get Ready To Share:

***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group the peace you have in following and obeying God.

### Close With Prayer:

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you pay attention to the Lord so He can show you what is best for you.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will pay attention to you so I can live in your peace.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I obey your commands and live in your peace today?*

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