

Questions to ask yourself when you are watching the news

1. What were your first impressions?
2. What do you think about what you heard?
3. What questions do you ask yourself?
4. What did the report miss out in its coverage?
5. Will this info influence your thinking/behaviour in any way?
6. What do you think God would think about this news item?
7. What verses would lead you to believe these are His thoughts?
8. What scripture will influence how you think/act in regards to this specific news item?

What people said...

We watched 15 minutes of the 10pm BBC news covering three stories. In feeding back from the discussions, the following comments were made.

"It seemed like a gossip story"

"It was all froth with no substance to the story"

"They were reporting on an important meeting between two prime ministers but this wasn't really covered"

"What good does it do to portray the Government as falling out. Its ridiculous reporting on who was carrying her handbag"

"She wasn't hounded by questions [as was reported], just his question! [the reporter]"

"The item made a number of statements about her emotional state"

"They said nothing about what the forthcoming meeting was going to be about"



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Feedback

“Previously my reactions to the news headlines would bring irrational reactions and put me in an anxious state, after what was said on Tuesday and John’s reiteration on Sunday next time I read the news I will be thinking more through the headlines and what the spin is.”

“It was good for me to think about how I watch the news and what scriptures relate to the issues involved.”

“I will be seeking God more and what pleases him when I watch the news going forward as the motive behind any report is blurred. I hear the phrase ‘history is always written by the victors’ and I think this may be an example of it happening in front of our eyes.”

“Ever since the session I am looking at the news with fresh eyes, I have noticed lots of unnecessary comments, most of which are snide, and that there is a lack of reporting – using fb or twitter instead. I am now more focussed on being alert to which spirit is at work and what spirit I am responding.”

Actions to Take: Before engaging with the media

1. Before you react – invite Him to bring His perspective
2. Plead for sightedness
3. Plead for His heart
4. Ask what pleases Him



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