

Week 4 | April 29 Sermon

Community:

As you begin your GROUP time in community, would you begin with silence and listening? The questions you'll dig into that relate directly to the sermon content will give you the opportunity to do quite a bit of group sharing from your own personal story and journey. In a week talking about listening, you'll get to practice listening well to each other. Would you start your time by listening to the Holy Spirit? Grab a snack, check in on how everyone's week was, get out the normal "buzz" of coming together and then spend a moment centering yourselves in silence and listening for anything that the Lord might have for you as you engage in community. You might consider starting your time of listening with a prayer of relinquishment like this one by Richard Foster:

Today, O Lord, I yield myself to you. May your will be my delight today. May your way have perfect sway in me. May your love be the pattern of my living. I surrender to you my hopes, my dreams, my ambitions. Do with them what you will, when you will, as you will. I place into your loving care my family, my friends, my future. Care for them with a care that I can never give. I release into your hands my need to control, my craving for status, my fear of obscurity. Eradicate the evil, purify the good, and establish your kingdom on earth. For Jesus' sake, Amen.



LISTEN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT AND TO OTHERS

John 14:15-27; John 15:26-16:15

In a world filled with noise and distractions, learn to listen.

This week, set aside time to be still, spend time listening to the Holy Spirit and practice intentional and attentive listening with others.

SANCTUARY :: Jon & Steph Hietbrink

AUDITORIUM:: Roger DeWaard

What do you think of this statement: "In a world obsessed with AMPLIFYING our own voices, LISTENING is a prophetic act"?

Talk about a time you felt deeply listened to-what was that experience like for you? How did it affect you?

What do you think it means that God always intended to speak to us face to face like our friend? How have you experienced this (or not)?

How do you hear from God? What's something you felt like you heard from God recently?

What are the barriers in your own life to listening well (to God or others)? How might you overcome/deconstruct those barriers?

In your small group, consider practicing asking a great question or two off this list and listening well to the answers.

What are you most excited/concerned about in your life right now?

- If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?
- What's your biggest regret over the last year?
- What's something you are learning about right now?
- How are have you changed over the last year?



Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. **Hebrews 10:24-25**