

STUDY GUIDE: “Listening”

Discussion Starters

1. On a scale of 1-10 (low to high), how good a listener are you?
2. Who do you listen to most effectively?

Study

To complete the next section of the study guide, you will need to use a Bible Dictionary. Remember, the words listed below are from the NASU, but the word you are trying to define is the Greek or Hebrew word translated by the NASU—NOT the English word. If you have any questions about how to use these tools, contact your group leader or one of the pastoral staff.

3. Define the following words or terms.

--“telling” (Psalm 1:1)—

--“declaring” (Psalm 1:1)—

--“Cease” (Psalm 46:10)—

--“hear” (Matthew 11:15)—

--“convict” (John 16:8)—

4. Choose one of the words you looked up above, and write how understanding the meaning and background of that word better helped you understand this passage.

5. Read the following passages and note what they tell you about how God speaks to us.

1 Kings 19:11-12

Psalm 19:1-2

John 16:8

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Hebrews 1:1-2

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6. What does the way God speaks to us tell us about how to listen to him?

7. How does God “convict” us (John 16:8)? Can you think of an example of this in your life?

8. Read the following passages and note what they tell you about how to listen to God.

Psalm 46:10

Psalm 119:15

Matthew 11:15

Colossians 4:2

Hebrews 3:15

9. How can someone tell s/he is hearing God (as opposed to his/her own thoughts, feelings, etc.)? Note your scriptural sources.

Taking It Home

10. How does this compare with how you listen to other people? Please explain.

11. Which way of listening to God do you find most difficult? Please explain.