

## STUDY GUIDE: “Listening”

### Discussion Starters

1. Do you believe God talks to us today? If so, how?
2. On a scale of 1-10, how easy do you find it to know God’s will?

### Study

This study guide is designed to follow up the sermon “Listening” at NOCC on 9/23/18. If you weren’t in worship at NOCC that Sunday, listen to the sermon on [nocc.org](http://nocc.org) or the NOCC app.

3. Read the following passages and note what they say about listening to God.

Proverbs 11:14

Matthew 7:24-25

John 16:8-11

2 Timothy 2:15-17a

2 Timothy 3:16-17

James 1:22-25

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.

4. Define the following words or terms. Note for each of them how understanding the meaning and background of that word better helped you understand this passage, and why you think this word was chosen.

--“convict” (John 16:8)

--“be diligent” (2 Timothy 2:15)

--“approved” (2 Timothy 2:15)

--“accurately handling” (2 Timothy 2:15)

--“equipped” (2 Timothy 3:17)

--“prove yourselves” (James 1:22)

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5. How does someone “listen” to God? (Give scriptural support for your answer)
  
6. How do you know when the Spirit is convicting you of something? Can you give an example?
  
7. If there are different ways of hearing God (scripture, counselors, conviction of the Holy Spirit), can we know God’s will by listening to only one of these? Please explain.

**Taking It Home**

8. Can you be confident you know what God has said, or is saying? Please explain.
  
9. If God communicates clearly, why do people in churches disagree so much about what the Bible says?
  
10. What stops people from listening to God?
  
11. Can someone be a Christian who doesn’t practice listening to God and responding?