

HEARING GOD IN A LOUD WORLD

Life Group Questions | Sunday, May 20, 2018

What is the difference between hearing and listening?

What thoughts or experiences come to mind as we talk about listening to and hearing from God?

Read Samuel 3:1-10. Discernment is recognizing and responding to the presence of God in our lives. It is becoming attentive to God's movement and God's voice. How does this story shed light on our struggle to discern God's voice in a world full of other voices?

Read Romans 12:1-2. How does this passage speak to discerning God's presence in our lives?

What heart postures are essential to cultivating a listening life? What challenges do you face as you seek to discern God's movement and voice?

Discuss the following pathways for developing discernment. What practices help you recognize and respond to God's presence in your life?

1. Create space to hear God | **Luke 5:15-16**
2. Listen to wise voices | **Proverbs 13:20**
3. Listen to your life | **John 14:16-17**

Pray together.

Begin with two minutes of silent reflection using the Prayer of Examen:

- God, we ask for your Spirit to help us listen to our lives today.
- As you remember the day, reflect individually on the following questions:
 - What gave me life today?
 - What took away life today?
- In identifying life-giving patterns in our days, we can practice gratitude and pursue those choices, activities, and relationships we see. In identifying life-stealing daily patterns, we can practice confession and ask for God's help to avoid those choices, activities, and relationships we see. Take a few minutes to silently pray about what gave and took life today.