



THE GOD WHO LISTENS
PSALM 116
JUNE 21, 2020

OVERVIEW: There are many ways to demonstrate love. One of the most important ways we can show love is by **listening**. In Psalm 116, we find the important truth that one of the greatest ways that God shows us His love is in that He listens to us. Because God listens, it effects our prayer life in four important ways.

BECAUSE GOD LISTENS TO US...

- We _____.
 - Psalm 116:1 *"I love the Lord because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy."*
 - 1 John 4:19 *"We love because he first loved us."*
 - But we can also say, *"We love because he first **listened** to us."*

- We pray _____.
 - Psalm 116:2 *"Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live."*

- We _____.
 - Psalm 116:7 *"Return O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you."*
 - Phillipians 4:6-7 *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."*

- We want to _____.

- Psalm 116:12 asks the question: *“How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me?”*
- Psalm 116:16 *“O Lord, truly I am your servant. I am your servant, the son of your maidservant; you have freed me from chains.”*
- Romans 12:1 *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual worship.”*

That is why we give ourselves to God in faith - not just because He is all-powerful and all-wise; not just because the doctrines about God are true - it is because, in God, we have finally found someone who **understands us**, and who truly **listens to us**.

Study Questions:

1. Pastor Koedyker mentioned a number of ways through which we can show love for others. What were they? Can you think of any others?
2. Why is listening such an important way to show love? Can you give an example of a time when someone's listening made you feel loved?
3. How does God's listening make you feel loved? Can you give an example?
4. Share an instance when God listened and that encouraged you to keep on praying about other things.
5. Have you ever felt like God wasn't listening to you? Why? Were you able to overcome this doubt? If so, how?
6. How can God's listening to us help us not to be anxious and relax? Can you describe God's peace which comes through prayer?
7. Name some ways we can offer ourselves to God (Romans 12:1). Be specific.