

Small Group Discussion Questions Following the Weekend of February 22-23, 2020

Please don't feel you have to answer every question.

The Life-Giving Power of Listening

Alan Kraft, Lead Pastor

Icebreaker

In a few words, share a time when you felt truly listened to.

What did the other person do that caused you to feel heard?

What was the impact of this experience upon you at the time?

Group Interaction & Application

Read aloud Philippians 2:3-8 and James 1:19.

What strikes you, intrigues you, or uniquely speaks to you from these verses – words, phrases, or perhaps something else – especially in conjunction with the focus of this week's message?

What stood out to you from the message this weekend, or maybe created some push-back or inner tensions for you?

Why do you think Jesus asked questions? (See Luke 24:17-19, 10:25-28)

Considering this, how does listening communicate value?

What's your biggest struggle in giving a person your undivided attention?

How might you specifically address that in your conversations this coming week?

What are some ways we unintentionally redirect the "arrow of listening" toward ourselves? Be specific.

How can we combat this tendency in our conversations with people? What helps you stay interested in what someone else is saying?

When someone shares a deep feeling or emotion with you, what is your natural response to that emotion, and why?

Practice: Pair up with another person. Have one of you share an emotion you are currently experiencing. Have the other person listen with interest and empathy (without fixing).

How was that experience as the listener? How was that experience as the one being listened to?

With whom might God be inviting you to become a more humble, attentive listener?

What is one specific thing you will do to improve your listening to this person this week?

How can your group be praying for you and supporting you in response to this week's message and discussion?

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