

Questions for eGroup Discussion

Are You Listening?

August 26-27, 2017

Alan Kraft, Lead Pastor

How to Use This Guide in a Group Setting

Group Participants: Review your notes from the message and ask the Holy Spirit to continue to speak to you about your life. Come to eGroup prepared to participate. Watch the message online if you missed it live.

Group Leaders: Give everyone the chance to share, focusing on the questions that connect most with your group. Don't feel you must answer every question. If someone missed the message, allow time for others to fill them in on the main points and highlights.

Getting Started

Who is someone you'd consider a really good listener?

What do they do that connects with you when you're talking with them?

From your experience with this person, are there any similarities with what you learned this weekend about how to listen to the Spirit?

Embrace the Gospel

In our eGroup discussion guides, we're utilizing a simple structure for studying the Bible together, based on the acronym S.O.A.P. ...

Spirit: *Invite The Holy Spirit To Speak To You and To Guide Your Discussion*

Begin by praying and inviting the Spirit's activity into your discussion and application of God's Word.

Observation: *What Does This Passage Say?*

Read Luke 10:38-42 aloud two or three times, in a couple different Bible translations, if possible.

As you listen/read, what stands out to you from these verses (in terms of words, phrases, themes, personalities, interactions, etc.), or stood out to you from this week's message on these verses?

What questions do they raise, surprises do they contain, or personal impact do they have on you?

In his message, Pastor Alan said, *"Listening to Jesus is at the heart of a true friendship with Jesus. Jesus finds listening to Him more valuable than serving Him."*

How do you see this statement supported by this week's verses and John 15:15?

Why do you believe Jesus makes the delineation between servants and friends?

Take a fresh look at Romans 8:14, John 10:27, Acts 2:17-18, 1 Kings 19:9-13, and John 15:14.

Embrace the Gospel Continued

What do these verses teach us about the Spirit's ministry in speaking to us today?

If this is the case, how should we be paying attention to Him as listeners?

Pastor Alan gave us four tests to discern if what we're hearing is truly from God. For each, summarize the test and why it's important as we seek to listen to God.

The Scripture Test

The Tone Test

The Resonance Test

The Fruit Test

Application: *What Is God Saying To Me?*

How well do you believe you listen to God, and why?

What thing(s) interfere the most with you being fully attentive to Him?

List some specific ways you might grow in your ability to listen to God.

How is God speaking to you through this week's verses and eGroup discussion, and what next step might be involved in you responding to Him in this?

Experience the Spirit

Prayer: *Ask For God's Help In Living Out His Word*

As you pray for one another this week, we invite you to begin by engaging in a listening prayer experience in one of the following ways:

Have one of your eGroup members sit in the center of the group, with the other group members being still for a few minutes and attentive in listening to God on their behalf. After a few minutes share with the person if there's a passage of Scripture, word, picture, or impression that God brings to mind?

Ask God a question that's on your heart (e.g. "What do you see when you look at me?"), and then listen and share with one another what you heard.

When you're done, spend time praying for specific needs and concerns for one another this week, as well as your response to any spiritual stirrings that are on your hearts.

Engage in Mission

It's our desire that every individual and eGroup at Christ Community compassionately moves outward toward people who are lost, needy, and broken, demonstrating the love of Jesus in highly relational ways.

Looking forward into the weeks ahead, how do you see this desire being lived out in your personal relationships and eGroup? Due to the diversity of personal styles, relational contexts, passions, and opportunities, one size doesn't fit all with how this occurs, either for an individual or an eGroup. The important thing is that it's on our radar screen as individuals, and an integral part of each group's identity. And that we're open to the Spirit prompting us and moving us outward personally and collectively, when it makes sense.

So, if you've not done so in a while, why not spend some time talking about it this week, and praying for the Spirit to open your eyes and ears to promptings He might want to give you these days?



Weekly Messages are available in audio and video at ccgreeley.org or on our free App.