



## **A Life of Wholeness, Part Two**

### **Anja Staten**

### **“Love Listens”**

### **9/4/2022**

**Key Verses:** Philippians 2:1-11

**Key Thought:** We can learn the fullness of what it means to listen from Jesus, who— in love— emptied himself and entered into our world as a servant.

#### **Points to Consider:**

- To listen is to love; the two are almost inseparable.
- “Emptying” refers to giving up divine privileges.
- Jesus became a slave (δοῦλος) in that he lived for others.
- Verse 6-7 might be more aptly translated, “because being in very nature God... he emptied himself.” The implication would be that emptying is a *revelation* of God’s nature (as opposed to a *contradiction*).
- The life and death of Jesus was an act of love for us.
- Listening Tips:
  - i. H.U.T. (Heard, Understood, Taken Seriously)
  - ii. ~~Closed Questions~~ (i.e., Yes/No) → Open Questions
  - iii. ~~Shift Response~~ → Support Response
  - iv. Ask if there is more...

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- Who’s an exceptional listener? How do they make you feel?
- How do Paul’s commands in verses 3-4 relate to listening?
- What can we learn about listening from the life and death of Jesus?
- What are some reasons why is it so hard to listen?
- Where do you need to grow as a listener?
- Who in your life most needs your love through listening?