

2026_10_11 An Open Heart to Hear

1.

2.

3. Dependence

4.

5. Suddenly, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of Armies, but the Israelites have abandoned your covenant, torn down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are looking for me to take my life." Then he said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the LORD's presence."

6. At that moment, the LORD passed by. A great and mighty wind was tearing at the mountains and was shattering cliffs before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake.

After the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire.

7. And after the fire there was a voice, a soft whisper. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

1 Kings 19v9-13 (CSB)

8.

9. Dependence is the recognition that you are in need and you need help.

10. Dependence leads to hearing the voice of God.

11.

12. Humility

13.

14. Mary asked the angel, "How can this be, since I have not had sexual relations with a man?"

The angel replied to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. And consider your relative Elizabeth—even she has conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called childless. For nothing will be impossible with God."

15. "See, I am the Lord's servant," said Mary. "May it happen to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Luke 1v34-38 (CSB)

16.

17. A humble heart doesn't need everything figured out before it listens.

18. "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your cares on him, because he cares about you."

1 Peter 5v6-7 (CSB)

19. "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the everlasting way."

Psalms 139v23-24 (CSB)

20. How to cultivate a humble heart:

- Keep God before your eyes

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- Refuse God nothing.

22. How to cultivate a humble heart:

- Keep God before your eyes.
- Refuse God nothing.
- Living in loving submission to other Christians in community.

23. "One of the surest tests of true humility is the spirit of obedience."

Jacques Philippe

24.

25. OPENNESS

26.

27. Then they came to a place named Gethsemane, and he told his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took Peter, James, and John with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. He said to them, "I am deeply grieved to the point of death. Remain here and stay awake." He went a little farther, fell to the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said, "Abba, Father! All things are possible for you. Take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, not what I will, but what you will."

Mark 14v32-36 (CSB)

28. Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. And when he had come as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death— even to death on a cross.

Philippians 2v7-8 (CSB)

29.

30. Openness is a direction of the heart. Openness is the intention of the heart to be transparent and vulnerable before God.

31. An open heart is attentive.

32. An open heart pursues intimacy.

33. An open heart is expectant, but without agenda.

34.

35. Listening to God depends on the heart you bring to him.

36. What is the posture of your heart before God today?

37. "If we live a holy life before God, broken of our pride and self-will, crying out for grace, then we will be in communion with God."

Paul Miller

38. Jesus, you know where I'm resisting you. Thank you for loving me enough to bring me near. Make my heart dependent, humble and open. Help me trust you with my life. Give me grace to follow through on what you've already made clear. Amen.