PRAYING TO LISTEN

The School of Prayer

Pastor John Tiernan

March 6, 2016

**Life Group Discussion Questions:**

1. Thinking back on this week’s sermon, was there a particular point or passage that challenged you, confused you, or caught your attention?
2. John’s big idea was “listening is essential to knowing and following.” Where is your faith in terms of knowing Jesus and following Jesus? How active is your listening prayer life?
3. John said that the we should listen for four things:
	1. Revelations & Reminders of the Truth (**John 14:25-26**)- help us KNOW Jesus
	2. Wisdom (**James 1:5**)- helps us FOLLOW Jesus
	3. Conviction (**John 16:8-11**)- helps us FOLLOW
	4. Callings (**Acts 16:6-10**)- helps us FOLLOW
4. Have you felt God speak to you recently? Share with the group a revelation, conviction, calling or some wisdom the Spirit has spoken to you.
5. Read **1 Thessalonians 5:16-23**. How can you know it is God’s voice? How do you test what you heard? Does it line up with Scripture? Does it bring glory to God? Has God confirmed this word through others or circumstances?
6. John said that there are channels by which God speaks to us today: Meditation on Scripture (**2 Timothy 3:16**); Solitude and Stillness (**Psalm 46:10; Mark 1:35**); Still small voice; Fasting; Worship & Music; Voice of people (wise friend, pastor, teacher, etc); Nature (**Psalm 19:1-4**)
7. \*\*LG Leader- prepare a time of quiet for you groups. Select one of these ideas:
	1. Use a scripture for meditation- John’s key passage was John 10:1-16 or choose a psalm. Read it aloud once and then have the group read silently as they meditate.
	2. Choose a favorite worship song or two to play quietly as people meditate on God- encourage them to picture the song as it plays.
	3. Choose a short teaching clip from John’s sermon to replay for the group and ask God to speak to each person as they listen.
	4. In perfect quiet, ask everyone to close their eyes and picture Jesus as their Good Shepherd. Meditate on this.

**Next Steps:** 1- Ask each member of the group to share how they will schedule time for solitude and stillness. 2- Consider making a plan to fast together as a group for a particular need.

**Memory Verse:** “*Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful*.” **Colossians 4:2**