



Jesus said, “My sheep listen to my voice, and they follow me.” Faithful following requires careful listening, and careful listening requires intention and training. In this series we will explore ways we can grow in our capacity to hear the voice of our Lord. Our Savior still speaks, and he still connects with those who have “ears to hear.”

### Week 6: God Does Not Talk All the Time

1. Can you recall a time when you felt God was silent in your life? How did you respond and what did you learn from that experience?
2. **DON'T ASSUME... God's silence does not mean His absence.** How does this idea challenge or affirm your perspective on hearing from God (**Psalm 13:1 & 22:1-2**)?
3. **BUT ASSESS... Am I even expecting to hear from God?** How can our expectations and desires affect our ability to hear from God? Follow up: With this in mind, how does **Hebrews 11:6** encourage and/or convict you?
4. **BUT ASSESS... Am I too distracted to listen well? Read Luke 8:14.** What distractions do you currently have in your life that might be preventing you from hearing God's voice? What can you do to minimize these distractions? *When does God get your undivided attention?*
5. **BUT ASSESS... Am I ignoring His word in another area of my life? God does not feel obligated to respond to rebels (1 Samuel 28:6 & Ezekiel 14:1-3).** How does disobedience to God impact our ability to hear His voice? Are there any areas of disobedience in your life that you need to address in order to be more receptive to God's voice (**Psalm 40:8**)?
6. **BUT ASSESS... Am I only wanting to listen for what I want to hear?** What is wrong with *selective listening* when it comes to hearing from God? Follow up: How can we cultivate a willingness to hear from God even if His message doesn't align with our desires?
7. **BUT ASSESS... Am I willing to listen for as long as it takes? Sometimes God is “slow to speak”, and people of faith do not interpret His delays as denials. Read Habakkuk 2:1 & Psalm 5:3.** Share an example of a season like this from your life. How can we cultivate patience and trust in God's timing when we're eager for His guidance or answers?

**Conclusion:** Take a moment to reflect on the 5 assessment questions above. Which of these reasons resonates with you the most, and why? **Remember... hearing nothing does not mean nothing is happening.** *When you cannot hear His voice, trust His face.*

