



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 5: God Speaks to Be Heard

1. What has resonated with you the most from this series so far? Follow up: Share one way you've heard from God recently. How did that impact you and those close to you?
2. **YOUR SALVATION PROVES *that you can hear God!* Read James 1:18.** What role does God's word have in our spiritual birth? Follow up: How did you hear God calling you to find new life in Christ?
3. **Read James 1:19-25.** What stands out to you the most from this passage? Follow up: How does James' advice in this passage align with the sermon's emphasis on the importance of listening to and obeying God's word?
4. **YOUR HEARING IMPROVES... when you *yearn to learn.* James 1:19** emphasizes the importance of being *quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry.* How do these traits contribute to better hearing God? What role does humility play in our ability to listen to God? Follow up: What can you do to cultivate a humble & teachable spirit in your own life?
5. **YOUR HEARING IMPROVES... when you *mean to stay clean.* Sin that is unaddressed and unconfessed will always create interference with any transmission from God. Read James 1:21.** How does unaddressed sin create interference in our communication with God? Follow up: What steps can you take to identify and address sin in your life to improve your communication with God?
6. **YOUR HEARING IMPROVES... when you *obey right away.* Read James 1:22 & Exodus 24:7.** *To the Hebrew mind hearing was more than acknowledging reception of the word; hearing was pledging allegiance to the word.* Why is obedience essential to truly hear God? Follow up: How can you practice immediate obedience to God's Word in your daily life?
7. How can we practically implement the prayer "*My God, I want to do what you want.*" (**Psalm 40:8**) in our daily lives to enhance our communication with God? Spend some time praying together with this in mind and commit to praying for each other during the week.

