

# HEARING GOD

DISCERNING HIS VOICE



LIFE GROUP STUDY • WEEK 1  
WEEK OF JAN 21

## READING ASSIGNMENT

*Hearing God* – Pages 17-21; 26b-32a; 76b-81a; 142

## GETTING STARTED

This weekend we started our new series—*Hearing God ... Discerning His Voice*. We learned that God is still speaking today and that He wants to have regular, personal communication with us.

As you begin the study, take some time to read and meditate on this verse that describes Jesus' desire for His followers to listen and follow:

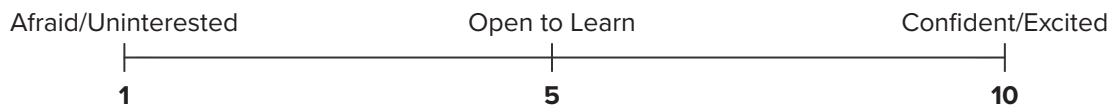
*My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.* **John 10:27**

## GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

If you could live in another historical period, which would you pick and why?

## STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Before we dive into this week's study, how do you feel about this topic of *Hearing God*?  
Look at the spectrum below.



- a. Where would you put yourself on this spectrum and why?
2. As you think back over this first message in the *Hearing God* series, what stood out to you the most? What did you find most challenging or interesting? What were your most important learnings?
  3. One of Michael's points this weekend was that *God... Is Still Speaking*. Read the following excerpt from page 20 of *Hearing God*.

*Today I continue to believe that people are meant to live in an ongoing conversation with God, speaking and being spoken to. ...Given our basic nature, we live—really live—only through God’s regular speaking in our souls and thus ‘by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ Dallas Willard*

- a. What was your initial reaction to Michael’s point and this passage from *Hearing God*?
  - b. What are some of the teachings you have heard, either growing up or since becoming a Christian, about God speaking to us today?
  - c. Have you ever sensed God speaking to you (not necessarily in words), and if so, how has that impacted your life and relationship with Him?
4. On pages 76a-81a of *Hearing God*, Dallas Willard lists two of the three most common mistaken views on how God speaks to us. Which of these two do you think is most common, and why?
- a. How you ever found yourself falling into one of these views, and if so, why did you find this view compelling?
5. This weekend we read some verses from Psalm 25, which is a Psalm of David. Read the entire Psalm carefully a couple times.
- a. Write down every **prayer** or **statement** in which David refers to God teaching, leading, guiding, or instructing him.
  - b. Look back over the list you just made. What can we learn from this Psalm about what we should expect from God in terms of His leading in our life?
  - c. What can we learn about the kind of person God promises to speak to?
6. One of the principles we learned this weekend is that *Hearing God ... Takes Practice*.
- a. What would it look like for you to set aside time to practice hearing from God?
  - b. What are some obstacles that might keep you from this practice? How can you overcome those obstacles?
7. Michael ended the message by asking *Why ... Do You Want To Hear God’s Voice?* End the study this week by taking a few minutes to think about your motivations for why you want to hear God. Spend some time praying and journaling through your thoughts.



## TOPICAL PRAYER

- 1. Focus on a Single Topic/Request at a Time**
- 2. Pray Several Times Together**
- 3. Keep Requests/Prayers Short and Simple**