



Part 2: Knowing How To Hear

Big Idea

Hearing from God starts with stopping to listen.

Key Scriptures

Psalms 46:10

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Discussion Questions

- What's the longest you've ever left someone on read (or been left on read) before responding, and what finally made you reply?
- Have you ever sent a text, watched the read receipt pop up, and then... nothing? How long did you wait before deciding what story to tell yourself about it?
- When someone doesn't reply, what's your instinct: assume the worst, assume they're just busy, or start silently drafting an annoyed follow up message?
- This week's message described hearing from God as feeling like being left on read: you send a prayer, and get silence back. Has that ever been your experience? What did you do with the silence?

- What's a story you've told yourself about God being silent in a season of your life? Looking back, do you still think that story was true?
- What stood out to you most from this week's message?

Read 1 Samuel 3:1-10

- Samuel hears God's voice three times before he even realises it's God calling him. What stands out to you about that detail?
- It takes Eli, someone else, to help Samuel recognise what's happening. Why do you think we often need someone else's help to notice when God is speaking?
- The message said we usually miss God's voice not because it's too strange, but because it's too familiar. Where might that be true in your own life?

Read Psalm 46:10

- This verse says, "Be still, and know that I am God." What's your honest reaction when you're told to just be still?
- Why do you think stillness is connected to actually knowing God here, rather than just feeling calm?
- The message said, "you can't hear a whisper in a hurricane." Where is your life loudest right now, and what would it take to turn the volume down, even briefly?
- Have your expectations of how God "should" speak ever gotten in the way of you noticing him?
- Who in your life, like Eli was for Samuel, might help you recognise when God is speaking? Is that a relationship you're currently investing in?
- If you're exploring faith for the first time, what would it mean to you if God was willing to speak to someone who doesn't have it all figured out yet, the way he did with Samuel?

Challenge Question (For Takeaway):

This week, try the P.R.A.Y practice for five minutes a day: Pause (sit in silence for a minute or two), Read & Reflect (slowly read a short passage from one of the biographies of Jesus), Ask (bring what's on your heart to God), and Yield (rest in stillness before stepping back into your day). You can find a simple guide at beyondchurch.com.au/onread.