



# How to Hear God

## Small group notes – Week 5 – GOD’S WHISPERS IN COMMUNITY

### Note to Small Group Leaders & HOSTs

Welcome to week 5 of How to Hear God. Well done, you’ve made it to the final week! This week we are exploring how to hear God’s whispers in community.

This week’s video is again in 2 parts.

### Welcome

Welcome everyone & introduce yourselves.

### Worship

Every good thing starts in God’s presence.

Take some time to worship together. Ask someone who can play a guitar or another instrument, if they will lead your group in some live worship or if that’s not possible, choose a couple songs from one of our playlists: [Youtube Playlist](#) [Spotify Playlist](#)

### Key Bible verse

**Luke 24 30** When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. **31** Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.



Video – Part 1 (11 mins)



Discussion Questions (15 minutes)

- Take some time to share stories around your group – How has God spoken to you over these last 5 weeks? Do share your stories with us! [Story@riversidevineyard.com](mailto:Story@riversidevineyard.com)
- Pete says that the more we find God in His Word, the more our eyes are primed to see Him in the world. How does reading the Bible impact the way that you see the world?
- What have you learnt most about how to Hear God? How are you going to live your life differently as a result of what we’ve talked about?



# How to Hear God



Video - Part 2 (4 mins)



Prophetic Activation (20 minutes)

Encourage those praying to keep their eyes open (physically!), expecting to see what the Lord is doing, and expecting the Lord to speak.

Break into pairs around the room. If you're online, break into 'rooms' of up to 4 people.

Invite Holy Spirit to come.

Using the techniques we have learned in previous weeks - words, pictures, Bible characters, verses etc. divide the group in half.

One group will be listening to God and will be receiving words. Those listening to God keep their eyes closed, then everyone else shuffles around and randomly goes up to someone. The person then shares the word without knowing who it is they are prophesying to. Then open eyes and get feedback

When sharing, remember the *checklist we shared last week. Is it:*

- **Affirming** – *is it strengthening, encouraging, comforting, edifying and uplifting (see 1 Cor. 14)*
- **Biblical** – *Is it consistent with the bible as a whole?*
- **Christlike** – *does it sound like the kind of thing Jesus would have said and feel like the kind of person he was?*

Next, ask the person if what is shared resonates with them does it resonate with you?

And then swap.

- If you're meeting face to face, repeat this with a few other people.
- If you're meeting online, take it in turns to ensure everyone in the room has the opportunity to share and receive.



# How to Hear God

Afterwards, take some time to pray for the individual. (see ministry below). You may wish to pray for them immediately or alternatively see if others would appreciate some discernment and then pray for everyone at the end.

## Ministry (15 minutes)

Then move into prayer ministry time.

There may be things that have come up as you've shared. Take some time to invite the Holy Spirit, praying for each other for a fresh in-filling of His presence, knowing that His power is in His presence.

Prayer ministry time is for prayer ministry not intercession, but what's the difference?

Maybe someone shares that they have a difficult meeting at work tomorrow. Intercession is praying for the meeting, and that's OK. But in our small groups, we want to do ministry. We believe that God's Kingdom is near and can break in at any time, including now. So what does the person need? Wisdom, peace, courage? Ask the Holy Spirit to release these to the person now wherever they are!

A model that we find helpful is **Ask-Pray-Ask** as we aim to pray in the way Jesus taught us.

**ASK** – ask the person what they're asking Jesus to do for them

And ASK the Holy Spirit what He is wanting to do

**PRAY** – like Jesus did, pray your best prayers. Invite the Holy Spirit to come, and then wait. As pray-ers, let's keep our eyes open to see what the Holy Spirit is doing

**ASK** – what's happening? If the pain was a 10 out of 10 when they walked in tonight, ask them what they would score the pain now? What are the next steps? Thank God and ask for more. You may find it helpful to go through these steps 2-3 times.

## If you're reading the book...

Read chapters 5&6 of How to Hear God

## Next week

Encourage your group to be part of a Sunday service for the next talk and to join us for the Pete Greig evening next week!