### Listen to the Lord

# The sheep knows the Shepherds voice

Joh10:4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.

Joh10:14-15 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Joh10:27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

♥ We are His sheep and that means that we can hear His voice, and know it.

How do you recognize someone's voice?

How come you recognize your friends' voice?

You listen to the one you like, and then you learn to recognize the voice! So how do we recognize the Lord's voice, we take time to listen.

#### Keep quiet - Be still - Listen

Ps46:10 He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

♥ Sometimes when we pray, and pray I can almoste hear God say be quiet so that I may speak, and give you my answer.

How often do you pray and pray about this and that without taking time to be still and listen?

▼ Listening becomes more and more important the further in the time we come, every letter in Revelation ends with - Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches...

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- 2:7 Ephesus; To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.
- 2:11 Smyrna; The one who is victorious will not be hurt at all by the second death.
- 2:17 Pergamum; To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.

Mark4:22-25 For whatever is hidden is meant to be disclosed, and whatever is concealed is meant to be brought out into the open. If <u>anyone has ears to hear, let them hear.</u>"

"Consider carefully what you hear," he continued. "With the measure you use, it will be measured to you—and even more. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them."

♥ So maybe it is about time that we take time in silence before our Lord, so that he may speak.

How else should we hear when he answers?

# Prayer

- **♥** Whenever you pray for others:
  - o Keep your eyes open. (So you can see it something happens)
  - o Take breaks in your prayer, to listen to God.

- If you get something, share it in humility.
  Like: This word/this image/this text/etc. came in to my mind. I do not know it is me or from God so you need to test it.
  Don't say "the Lord says..." (not even the most experienced prophets today have 100% right)
- ♥ When you have quite time with God
  - Write down whatever pops in to your mind so you can pray about it and test it.
  - o Be grateful
- Whenever you perceives something about someone else
  - o Share it with the same humility as in intercession

#### Let us try

Set 1/3 of the group on shares. Let the rest share words of encouragement for them until everyone has got at least 1 word, and everyone has had a chance to share at least 1 word. Change groups until all have been in both groups.

♥ Encouragement means so much, it gives us life. So let's keep doing that!

Prov15:30 Light in a messenger's eyes brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones.

Prov12:25 25 Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up.