



BREAKING THE ICE

If you could use an emoji to rate how you are feeling today which one would you use? (you can pull out your phones and show people if you want)

If you could use an emoji to rate how you have felt the last 6 months which would you choose?

MAIN CONTENT

This week Pastor Kevin talked about being awakened by sound and hearing God's voice in our lives. When we fast, it awakes our spiritual life. Part of that awakening is having ears to hear what God is saying, paying attention to the prompts He gives us.

Pastor Kevin talked about a prompt he had this past week and being available to hug a stranger and bless him. Kevin mentioned when he followed that prompt, God washed the languishing off his heart.

1. Describe a time when you followed a prompt from God and He moved in your heart.

God is continually pursuing a relationship with you. He wants to be in relationship with you because He loves you. He loves you more than anyone else loves you.

2. How have you felt / seen God's pursuit of a relationship with you?

God is always speaking, we just aren't always listening. We get distracted with other things in our lives that keep us from hearing His voice. The book "Experiencing God" talks about five ways to hear the voice of God. We can hear Him through the Holy Spirit, prayer, His word, the church and circumstances.

3. Out of the five ways to hear God listed above, which one have you experienced hearing God through?

There are 2 ways we know we are hearing from God; God's motive is always love and His voice is consistent with His written word. He never contradicts. He is the same.

As we continue to read the Bible (His word) and learn more about what it says, the Holy Spirit will remind us of the things we have read when we need it.

When we hear from God, we can tend to think about it passively and not act on it. God wants us to obey what He is telling us to do. Pastor Kevin talked about a shema prayer, an action oriented prayer. A shema

prayer can be, I hear you Lord and I will do what you ask me to.

4. When God asks you to do something do you take an active approach or a passive approach (and think about it)? Why?

Our ears must be open to obey what God is asking us to do. So many times we come to God looking for encouragement and not being willing to do uncomfortable things. But anytime God asks us to do something, it's for our good and His glory. Instead of contemplating and waiting to do what He asks, we should be ready to give our yes before He even asks. We should bring our yes to God every day.

5. How easy or hard is it for you to bring your yes to God before you even know what He is going to ask of you?

We can give God our yes every day by praying to Him and offering ourselves to do what He asks of us. Being open to Him using us for His glory.

Kevin read a beautiful prayer called, "The apprentice prayer" Sunday morning. This prayer was a beautiful reminder that God is in control and we ask Him to do work in us and use us for His glory.

6. Do you have a prayer you start your day with? Would you be willing to share it with the group?

The more we listen and obey God, the more we hear from Him. God is always speaking to us, we just need to slow down to hear Him. That's why we have been fasting in the month of February. Slowing down and fasting allows us to hear from God more clearly. We hear His voice and we respond to what He is asking us to do.

7. How do you practice listening and responding to God? How do you practice listening and responding to others?

We can practice listening to God by spending time reading the Bible (His word), praying and time with others who have wisdom.

When we are with others and we feel the nudge to do something we can ask God, What do you want me to say? What do you want me to do? If it isn't helpful, loving and He doesn't get the glory, it's not from Him. When we abide in His love, spend time with Him and even fast to hear Him, we become more aware of what He is saying to us.

CLOSING PRAYER

God, thank you for opening our eyes and ears to see you and hear you. Will you show us the distractions that keep us from hearing from you. Will you prompt us to obey what you ask instead of waiting and thinking about it. Will you surround us with others who can give us wisdom and help us draw near to you. Give us strength to finish out the month of prayer and fasting and ears to hear what you are asking us to do. Amen.

ACTION STEP

This week practice the following things:

- + The Apprentice prayer found on Cross Point socials and crosspoint.tv/fast.
- + Ask God: What do you want me to say? What do you want me to do?