Listening Hearts 2

Session 3: Hearing God Speak Through Scripture

- Listen well
- Share discussion time
- Be kind and courteous
- Respect others' boundaries
- Limit distractions
- Maintain confidentiality

Silence Practice

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work."

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT)

Lectio Divina

This is simply Latin for "Divine Reading". It is an ancient way of reflecting on Scripture.

1. Choose a short passage from the Bible.
2. Ask God to speak to you through his Word.
3. Read (or listen) to the passage slowly three times, pausing between each one to reflect:

- *First time:* Imagine the scene. What does it look like? Sound like?
- *Second time:* Which word or phrase are you noticing most?
- Third time: How could that word or phrase apply to your life? What might God be saying?

SHARING PROCEDURE

- Read the question aloud.
- Let one person answer while the others listen without comment.
- The whole group pauses. Take a few deep breaths. Let what that person said sink in.
- Let one or two people ask a question to expand or clarify. Be aware if a Scripture comes to mind. This could be God speaking to you. Share that gently with the group.
- Invite the next person to answer.
- Continue until everyone has had a chance to answer the question while others listen, pausing briefly to listen to God each time.
- Repeat these steps for each question.

THE PLAN

- *Check In:* What is something you're grateful for today? What is difficult for you right now?
- Share your answers to the questions for this session.
- Pray for each other.

THE QUESTIONS

- What questions do you have about learning to hear from God personally?
- What intrigues you about this subject?