LISTEN THROUGH SCRIPTURE



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the last week of our *Listen* series! After learning to listen through quiet and circumstances, Pastor Jesse teaches us how to listen through Scripture – the Bible. Remember, each of are at different stages of reading and studying the Bible. No matter what your history with Scripture looks like, there's an opportunity for you take a new, intentional step this week.

DISCUSSION

- 1. Outside of reading Scripture, what topics do you spend time engaging with, listening to, or studying? Maybe it's work or family-related, a hobby, entertainment, finances, or the news. Why do you choose to invest time and effort there?
- 2. Pastor Jesse teaches there are several assumptions we have to share if we're learning how to listen to God through Scripture:
 - God inspired it He superintended the process and speaks through it.
 - It's reliable the version we have today is a faithful copy of what was first written.
 - I can interpret, understand, and apply it correctly.

Score these assumptions for you personally from 1-5, with 1 being "Strongly Disagree" and 5 being "Strongly Agree." Spend some time articulating the "why" behind your scores. Remember, it's ok if these aren't all 5s for you. You can start engaging with Scripture, trusting God will meet you where you are.

- 3. **Revisit and read Psalm 119:105 and Psalm 119:33-40.** What benefits do we gain by spending time reading and studying God's Word? How have you experienced these during your time in Scripture?
- 4. Remember, listening to God through Scripture isn't just another to-do to check off. This perspective often leads to guilt and shame that risks making us relate with God through a report card rather than a relationship. When you think of the topics you shared in the first question, do you view them as to-dos? Why or why not? How might your relationship with God, and Scripture, shift by letting go of the "to-do" mindset?

APPLICATION

The best way to listen is to practice. Pastor Jesse gave us five practical pathways to grow more confident in listening to God through Scripture. Remember, he told us to start with just **one**:

- 1. Become a better student of Scripture.
- 2. Become a consistent reader of Scripture.
- 3. Experiment with spiritual disciplines.
- 4. Find a friend or join a group.
- 5. Teach it!

Choose and write down which is most likely to be most interesting or impactful for you over the next season. Even better, write it somewhere you'll see each day to help remind and encourage you. If you're looking for relationships and resources to start digging into Scripture, reach out to your campus. We're more than happy to help connect you to a small group or materials Pastor Jesse mentioned throughout his message.