

The Art of Listening
Week 2: Be Quiet
July 25th, 2021

OPENING PRAYER

Have someone in the group invite God's Holy Spirit into our presence. Pray for your encounter with God's Word. Ask God to open your heart and mind to some new understanding and especially to a new way of applying this truth in our daily lives.

SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES

~Safe Group	~Silence	~Sharing
~Confidentiality	~No Cross Talk	~Self-Aware
~Listen	~No Fixing	~"I" Statements
~Pause	~No Rescuing	~Handle Conflict Biblically

"GETTING TO KNOW YOU"

Go around the room and briefly share your answer to the following question:

Name a type of noise or noise pollution that annoys you the most!

INTRODUCTION

This week in **The Art of Listening** series we go from the *why* of listening to the 1st practical step in listening. That first step and our title to this week's study is **Be Quiet**. We are going to focus our time in a passage from James, Jesus' brother. He gives brilliant insight as to how God's people should live and act like God's people. *James 1:19-27* is our passage. As we study this together, begin to think about it means to not just quiet physically but to be quiet spiritually.

THIS WEEK'S KEY SCRIPTURE: James 1:19-27

Read the passage: Have someone in your group read the passage of scripture as everyone else follows along in their Bible.

DISCUSSION:

Go around the room and share from your heart, remembering the group guidelines.

EXPLORING THE SCRIPTURE:

- What do you notice in this text with new or fresh eyes?
- What do you struggle with?
- What surprises you?
- What encourages you?

ENGAGING THE MESSAGE:

- Is it easy for you to be quick to listen and slow to speak? Why?
- This week's message talked about barriers to listening, what are some common barriers that inhibit you from listening?
- Describe how you have experienced the difference between reading God's word and allowing God's word to read you.
- If you are willing, share a recent time in God's word and what He reflected back to you in the mirror.

LIVING IT OUT-APPLICATION:

- *Who's story do you need to invest more time in listening to this week?*

CLOSING PRAYER: Spend some time in prayer, pray for the season we are in, for those that may be affected, for the community, for our world. Pray for one another, for those that might be absent and for prayer requests.