



Hearing God for Others

Small Group Leader Resource
Real. Life. Together.

*“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them,
and they follow me.” John 10:27*

A. Breakdown of what happens

- Break into triad groups of three, preferably same gender.
- Leader explains the exercise and prays opening prayer (see D).
- Entire exercise could be done in as little as 15 minutes (demonstrated below) or up to 30 mins (with 10 mins per person).

B. Guidelines

1. Ask Jesus the simple question, “Lord Jesus, what do you have to say to _____?”
2. Pay attention to:
 - Flow of thoughts and ideas.
 - Pictures you see inside.
 - Visions (moving pictures).
 - Words or phrases that come to mind.
 - Scripture (quotes or references).
3. Simply share what comes to mind. Offer it simply and straightforwardly. Don’t embellish, overanalyze, exaggerate or add anything else. Share it and leave it for the person to discern.
 - They may say, “Hmm, I’m just going to leave that one. I don’t know what to do with it.” “Thank you. I’ll think about that.” Or, “Wow, you have no idea how much that means to me!”
 - Don’t be offended if they don’t like it, don’t agree or don’t know what to do with it.
4. If it contradicts Scripture, don’t share it; just let it go.

5. There is no pressure to perform. If nothing comes to mind, don’t make something up. That can actually be damaging to the person. In this case, just say that you have nothing for them.
6. Remember words must be consistent with 1 Corinthians 14:3, *“But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort.”*
 - If what you hear is negative, ask God to show you how it can be said so that it is strengthening, encouraging or comforting.
 - If that doesn’t become clear, don’t share it.
7. As the one receiving words from others, talk to God about any questions or response you may have to what they shared.
 - If you were encouraged, let your triad know.
 - If you are concerned or unsettled by what you heard, your small group leader or pastor know.

C. The Exercise

Take about 4-5 minutes total per person. It may be helpful to actually track time for each step:

- One minute: Triad listens for Person #1.
- Three minutes: Person #2 and #3 share what they heard. Person #1 can respond. Give a 30 second warning for conversation to wrap up.
- Repeat this process, this time listening and sharing for Person #2.
- Repeat this process again, this time listening and sharing for Person #3.

D. Leader’s opening prayer to setup time. Pray for:

- Protection over time together and for God to silence any distractions.
- Against the enemy from speaking contrary to what Holy Spirit intends.
- Freedom for Jesus to speak to us and invite the Holy Spirit’s presence.

E. For additional study:

Refer to the Hearing God Small Group Study at heartlandalliance.ca/groups/small-group-leaders.