



LIFEGROUPS

Series: How to Talk to God

Scripture: Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:12

Date: June 18 & 19, 2016

—[LET'S TALK]—

- What's the most adventurous or daring thing you've ever done?

—[LET'S WARM UP]—

- How do you make yourself aware of God?
- Do you have doubts about prayer? Why or why not?
- What do you think it means to hear God?
- What do you enjoy most about prayer? When is prayer the most difficult?

—[LET'S DIG | CHOOSE 1]—

- Read John 10:22-27, Matthew 26:36-46 and talk about hearing and responding to God.
 1. How is prayer a response to hearing God? How do prayer and action go together?
 2. Is it possible to hear God and not respond? Why or why not?
 3. What is the connection between hearing God's word and knowing Him? Why?
 4. How was Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane a response to God?
- Read Luke 11:5-23, 18:1-8, and talk about persisting in prayer.
 1. Why is it so difficult to be persistent with prayer?
 2. Prayers are answered "no" sometimes, but what is the power of persistence?
 3. If prayer is a conversation, what role does persistence play?
 4. Is persistent prayer only for when we request things? Why or why not?

—[LET'S ACT]—

- This week, read a passage of scripture out loud, and respond in prayer. This is known as *Lectio Divina*—a very old, and well tested prayer practice:
 1. Find a quiet place, and realize that you are about to listen to the Word of God.
 2. Read the scripture passage aloud—quite slowly. Hear the words and phrases with your own ears.
 3. After you've read, pause and recall if some word or phrase stood out, or if something touched your heart. Savor the insight, feeling, or understanding.
 4. Slowly read the passage out loud again because it will have greater meaning. Then pause and reflect on the greater meaning you experienced.
 5. Lastly, dialogue with God in response to the Word. Ask some of the 10 questions Dale suggested in his sermon. This kind of reflective listening allows the Holy Spirit to deepen awareness of God's initiative to speak with us.

