



Hearing 12

Purpose of the Elders Discipleship Group: To Train and Equip Discipleship Group leaders to lead more effectively.

Key Theme: Hearing.

Key Truth: The loudest voice tends to grab our attention the most.

Key Scripture: *Luke 23:16-25 Therefore I will punish Him and release Him.” [Now he was obliged to release to them at the feast one prisoner.] But they cried out all together, saying, “Away with this man, and release for us Barabbas!” (He was one who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection made in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again, but they kept on calling out, saying, “Crucify, crucify Him!” And he said to them the third time, “Why, what evil has this man done? I have found in Him no guilt demanding death; therefore, I will punish Him and release Him.” But they were insistent, with loud voices asking that He be crucified. And their voices began to prevail. And Pilate pronounced sentence that their demand be granted. And he released the man they were asking for who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, but he delivered Jesus to their will.*

The Pharisees were determined to get the outcome they were after, and the loudness of their voices would ultimately see them receive their wish. Pilate was greatly influenced by the loudness of the screams of the Pharisees, “crucify, crucify Him”. This was not Pilate's desire but he succumbed to the insistent pressure of the highest frequency of sound that was bellowing out of the hearts of these highly religious leaders.

We too can find ourselves in this same position when all the voices around us are screaming at a sound level higher than the singular voice which we need to hear to bring clarity and peace.

Pilate couldn't stand the ferocity of the voices that were screaming at him any longer, so he handed Jesus over to the Roman soldiers to be crucified and he released a well known murderer called Barabbas. None of this makes any logical sense but it still happened and this is what it can be like for us when all we hear are the voices of others, the world, our own flesh, and the adversary.

Jesus said My sheep hear My voice. As His people it is imperative we develop the ability to hear and discern the voice of God, differentiating the difference between His voice and every other voice. God told Peter, James and John to listen to the voice of His chosen Son.

Luke 9:35 *Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My Son, My Chosen One; listen to Him!”*

When one learns to hear the voice of God's beloved Son, all the other voices become powerless and no longer have a hold over us. They become irrelevant and we see them for what they truly are - lies and false promises of life. It doesn't matter how loud they scream or how attractive what they say might be to us, the small still voice of Jesus drowns these screams out. Let's press in and lean in to hear His voice through the Holy Spirit and through His prophetic living scriptures which are spirit and life, so we can fully operate the way He intends us to as His sons.

Questions:

1. Whose voice or voices are the loudest in your life currently?
2. Why are you listening to these particular voices?
3. How are these voices influencing your life and spiritual growth in Christ currently?



4. Why does the voice of Christ trump all other voices?
5. How do you posture and position yourself to hear the voice of God over the voices of the world?

Action point: What is one thing you may need to put in place from going through this resource?