ANCIENT PRACTICES:
Listening to God

A Five Day Weekly Devotional
FALL 2026 | WEEK FIVE

"My sheep hear my voice,
I know them, and they follow me."
John 10v27

Listening to God is vital for a vibrant, personal relationship with Jesus. This guide is designed to help us slow down, listen to the whisper of the Holy Spirit, and respond faithfully to his voice.

HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL

Each week follows the Sunday teaching. Five days of Scripture and prayer give us space to practice listening instead of only learning about listening. Every day uses the same simple rhythm, so you can open to that day and begin.

KEEP IT SIMPLE

- Give it 10–15 minutes. Linger longer when you want to, but do not turn this into something to complete perfectly.
- Do not force an experience. Some days you may notice a clear truth, conviction, or prompting. Other days you may simply become quiet and present to God.
- Scripture is our anchor. Hold personal impressions humbly, and process significant decisions with mature, trusted followers of Jesus.
- True listening includes obedience. We are learning to hear Jesus so that we can follow him.

A good prayer for the whole series:
"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."
1 Samuel 3v9

Week 5 — When God Whispers

Weekend Scriptures: 1 Kings 19v1–13; Psalm 16v7–11; 1 Corinthians 2v10–16
This week is about loving attentiveness. Silence is not a technique for getting a message from God. It is a way of making room to be present to him and to notice what the Spirit may already be bringing to your attention.

Day 1 | 1 Kings 19v1–5

BE STILL — Find a quiet place. Put your phone away. Sit in silence for 2–3 minutes. Pray, "Holy Spirit, I give you _____. Help me hear, see, and obey you."
READ — Read 1 Kings 19v1–5 slowly two times. Leave a brief pause between readings. Do not rush to figure everything out.
LISTEN — Before trying to listen, notice what you are bringing into God's presence physically and emotionally. Let yourself arrive honestly.
RESPOND — Talk honestly with God about what you noticed. Receive what is true. Confess what needs to be confessed. If a faithful response is clear, say yes to Jesus. Write one sentence beginning, "I noticed…" or "God's Word is inviting me to…"

Day 2 | 1 Kings 19v5–10

BE STILL — Find a quiet place. Put your phone away. Sit in silence for 2–3 minutes. Pray, "Holy Spirit, I give you _____. Help me hear, see, and obey you."
READ — Read 1 Kings 19v5–10 slowly two times. Leave a brief pause between readings. Do not rush to figure everything out.
LISTEN — Receive God's care. Sit quietly with the reality that God is present before you need clarity, direction, or answers.
RESPOND — Talk honestly with God about what you noticed. Receive what is true. Confess what needs to be confessed. If a faithful response is clear, say yes to Jesus. Write one sentence beginning, "I noticed…" or "God's Word is inviting me to…"

Day 3 | 1 Kings 19v11–13

BE STILL — Find a quiet place. Put your phone away. Sit in silence for 2–3 minutes. Pray, "Holy Spirit, I give you _____. Help me hear, see, and obey you."
READ — Read 1 Kings 19v11–13 slowly two times. Leave a brief pause between readings. Do not rush to figure everything out.
LISTEN — After reading, remain in silence for about five minutes. Do not hunt for a message. Simply attend to God and notice what surfaces.
RESPOND — Talk honestly with God about what you noticed. Receive what is true. Confess what needs to be confessed. If a faithful response is clear, say yes to Jesus. Write one sentence beginning, "I noticed…" or "God's Word is inviting me to…"

Day 4 | Psalm 16v7–11

BE STILL — Find a quiet place. Put your phone away. Sit in silence for 2–3 minutes. Pray, "Holy Spirit, I give you _____. Help me hear, see, and obey you."
READ — Read Psalm 16v7–11 slowly two times. Leave a brief pause between readings. Do not rush to figure everything out.
LISTEN — Stay present to God. Notice any quiet counsel, conviction, consolation, or awareness that emerges. Hold it gently rather than forcing certainty.
RESPOND — Talk honestly with God about what you noticed. Receive what is true. Confess what needs to be confessed. If a faithful response is clear, say yes to Jesus. Write one sentence beginning, "I noticed…" or "God's Word is inviting me to…"

Day 5 | 1 Corinthians 2v10–16

BE STILL — Find a quiet place. Put your phone away. Sit in silence for 2–3 minutes. Pray, "Holy Spirit, I give you _____. Help me hear, see, and obey you."
READ — Read 1 Corinthians 2v10–16 slowly two times. Leave a brief pause between readings. Do not rush to figure everything out.
LISTEN — Ask the Spirit to form the mind of Christ in you. Sit in silence for five minutes and notice what becomes clearer as you remain with God.
RESPOND — Talk honestly with God about what you noticed. Receive what is true. Confess what needs to be confessed. If a faithful response is clear, say yes to Jesus. Write one sentence beginning, "I noticed…" or "God's Word is inviting me to…"