

Thursday, March 13

So how would you answer the question in the message, “So how do we listen for God today?” How do you believe God communicates with others? How would you like God to communicate with you? Think of the ways that were expressed in the message that God communicates with people. Write a brief note to God sharing how you would like God to communicate with you. If you have the inclination. Share your note with another person and listen to their feedback as a means of God communicating with you.

Friday, March 14

Today is about being gentle and patient with yourself as you listen for God to speak to you. Read your note from yesterday and turn it into a prayer. Pray that prayed several times today. Remain calm and relaxed. Remember, the more you know and discover about God and yourself, the more you don’t know! And that’s okay.

*Praying With Jesus – Listening For God**

- I. *Lectio Divina* means “_____ reading” or “_____ reading”
 - A. In a group setting, it is helpful to have a couple of _____ people read the scripture aloud.
 - B. Three concepts that I believe provide a _____ for this series of messages.
 1. First, prayer _____.
 2. The second value of prayer is that it gives us skills to face the _____ of life.
 3. Third and finally, prayer aligns us with the will of God for _____ and _____ in human life.
- II. In our scriptures, once again Jesus is seeking time to _____ in the story of the Transfiguration.
 - A. It would seem that this experience of seeing Jesus alongside of Moses and Elijah shining brightly would be a _____ experience.
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 - B. Pastors Stan Purdom and Carl Wilton write, “It’s possible that the primary audience for the transfiguration was not the disciples, but _____ himself.”
 1. When God said, “This is my Son, my Chosen,” that confirmed for Jesus his _____ identity.
 2. But God’s addition of “listen to him!” was an obvious direction for the _____.
 3. In the Bible, the word “listen” implies both _____ and _____.

- III. So how do we listen for God _____?
- A. There are likely as many ways as there are people, however, I think we can narrow the scope a bit to _____ human experiences.
1. God communicates through _____.
 2. _____ is primary to our faith and God communicates with us through _____.
 3. God communicates with us through _____.
- B. We could feel insufficient that we haven't had an experience of God speaking _____ into our lives.
1. After ____ years of ministry and a _____ of communicating with our God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit there is one thing I know for certain!
 2. The _____ I know, the _____ I don't know!
 3. After all, we are plumbing the depths of the _____.
- C. The prophet _____ credits God with providing the ability to listen.
- D. As the prophet phrases it, "Morning by morning [God] wakens — wakens my _____ to listen as those who are taught.

Daily Devotional Guide

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

Monday, March 10

We began our message time with a Prayer Practice called *Lectio Divina* which means "divine reading" or "sacred reading." How was that experience for you? What words from our scripture lesson from Sunday captured your attention? What might God want to communicate to you?

Now turn to one of your favorite scripture passages or narrative story. Ask yourself these same questions. Did anything new or

surprising capture your attention. Try this prayer practice throughout this week and discover the depth of *Lectio Divina*! Write your initial reflections here.

Tuesday, March 11

As a review, Pastor Jack mentioned three foundational values or purposes for prayer. First, prayer changes us; while we might petition God to change or behave in a certain way, a deeper understanding of prayer will allow prayer to change us. The second value of prayer is that it gives us skills to face the challenges of life. This is where reading and praying our scriptures are helpful because we become aware of God's nature and presence with us always. Third and finally, another value of prayer is that it aligns us with the will of God for healing and wholeness in human life. Which of these foundations ring true for you? What other values or purposes do you believe prayer has had in your life? Meditate on these questions and write your reflections here.

Wednesday, March 12

Read Luke 9:28-43a. Take the time to read this scripture again paying close attention to all the communication that is happening between the people in this miraculous story. Jot some ideas down about the communicating you read about. It could be said about this passage that it is all about communication. What would you say is the result of Jesus' Transfiguration? How does this story inspire you? Meditate on these questions and write your ideas here.