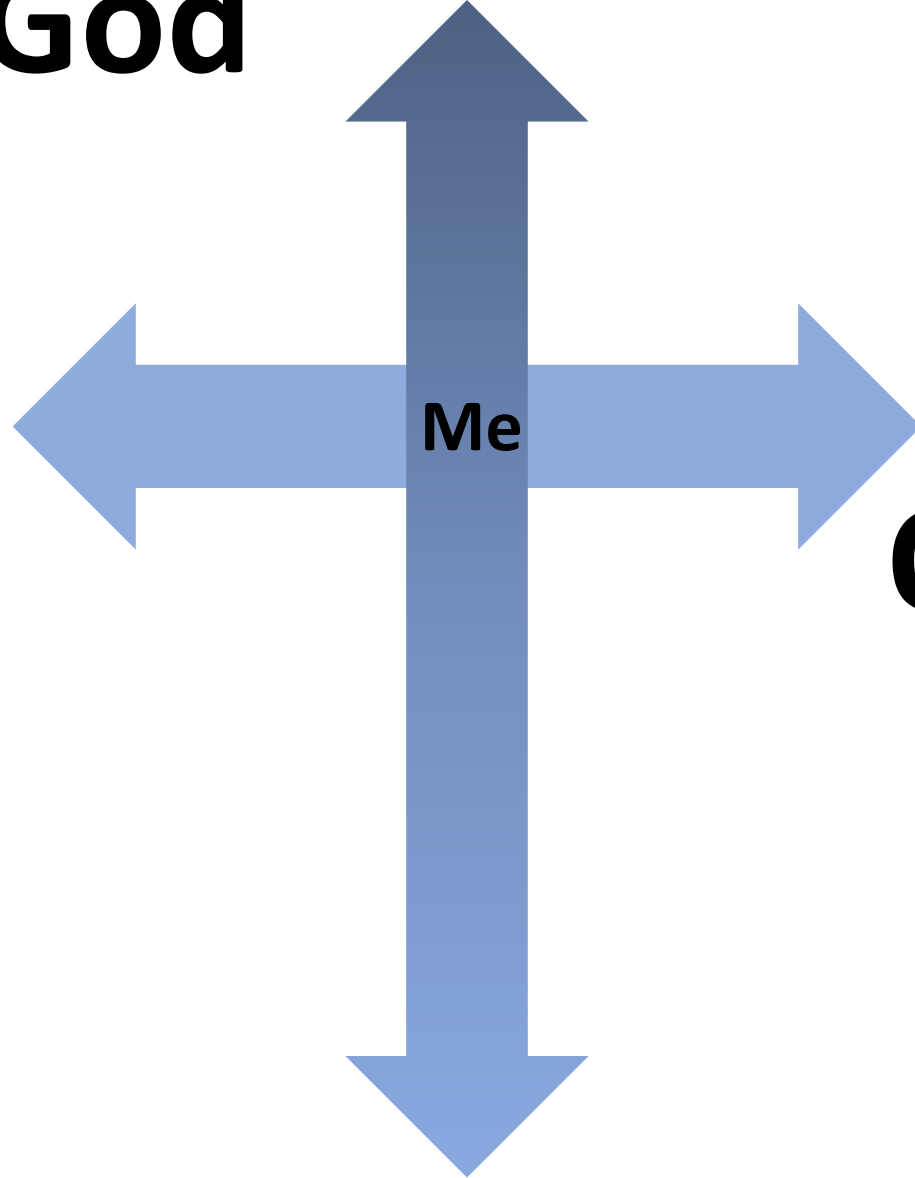


The Practice of Listening

Isaiah 55:1-3a

God



Others

Isaiah 55:1-3a (NIV)

“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. ² Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare. ³ Give ear and come to me; **listen, that you may live.**



What are the characteristics of a good listener?

Listening

- Hearing is easy; listening is hard.
- “Hearing is the passive intake of sound, while listening is the act of intentionally working to comprehend the sounds you hear.”
- **Sustained, active listening** is a great act of faith, and a great means of grace

How to Listen to God's Voice

Listen, listen to me, God pleads, and **eat what is good**, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live.

~ Isaiah 55:2-3

The most important thing in
communication is hearing
what isn't said.

PETER DRUCKER

Listen with your eyes as well
as your ears.

GRAHAM SPEECHLEY

How to Listen to God's Voice

Listen, listen to me, God pleads, and eat what is good, and your **soul will delight in the richest of fare**. Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live.

~ Isaiah 55:2-3

Most people do not listen
with the intent to
understand; they listen with
the intent to reply.

STEPHEN R. COVEY

How to Listen to God's Voice

Listen, listen to me, God pleads, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and **come to me**; hear me, that your soul may live.

~ Isaiah 55:2-3

Listening is about being
present, not just about being
quiet.



KRISTA TIPPETT

You cannot truly listen to
anyone and do anything else
at the same time.

M. SCOTT PECK

How to Listen to God's Voice

Listen, listen to me, God pleads, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and come to me; hear me, **that your soul may live.**

~ Isaiah 55:2-3

Listening is an art that
requires attention over
talent, spirit over ego, others
over self.

DEAN JACKSON



Christians have forgotten that the ministry of listening has been committed to them by Him who is Himself the great listener and whose work they should share. We should listen with the ears of God that we may speak the Word of God.

— *Dietrich Bonhoeffer* —

AZ QUOTES

How to Listen to God's Voice

- God speaks as a gentle whisper, a still, small voice
 - *and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice." 1 Kings 19:13*
 - *Be still and know that I am God" Psalm 46:10*

Take time to be quiet. Make space in your life for moments of stillness.

Ask
open-ended
questions.

Be present
in the moment
and eliminate
distractions.

Don't give
unsolicited
advice.

HOW TO PRACTICE EMPATHIC LISTENING

Leave space
for silence.

Use non-verbal
communication to
show that you're
listening.

Reflect on
what you
heard.

| TheMindsJournal

A serene sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. Silhouettes of palm trees and other foliage are visible on the left and right sides. A small boat is visible on the water in the foreground.

'Be still

and know that I am God.'

PSALM 46:10