

more

40 days of experiencing
more of the Spirit

#3

These questions have been written for personal reflection and group discussion to accompany Chapters 4-5 of the book MORE, in conjunction with the following message by Alan Kraft ...

Hearing the Spirit's Voice

John 10:27

Please take the time to review your notes from the message and respond to the following questions before going to your group.



Breaking the Ice

When you need to have a really important conversation with someone, describe how you prepare for it, where you like to meet, and any other details that allow you to focus on the matter-at-hand with them.

How about when you prepare to meet with God to engage with Him about something really important?

In the message, Alan Kraft said, *"Often in our relationship with God, we settle for one way communication—where we do all the talking. But the Spirit of God within us longs to communicate with us as well. As we learn how to hear His voice, our relationship with God will deepen in significant ways."*

When you consider God speaking to you, does the idea fill your heart with excitement, fear, or something else, and why?

Why do you think God would want to speak with you?



Briefly, in just a couple of minutes ...

Looking back at your notes from the message, was there anything that particularly caught

your attention, challenged or spoke to you personally? Did it raise any questions or create any push-back for you?

If you read Chapters 4-5 in the book More, how did your reading complement and deepen your understanding of this week's theme?



Exploring God's Word

Don't feel pressured to answer every question.

What are some of the examples that come to mind of people in the Bible who heard God speak to them? (Luke 2:26 and Acts 8:29 were two from this weekend's message)

What stands out to you about this list, and the significance of this communication?

In the Bible we see God speaking in a variety of ways. Why do you think this is?

Read aloud and make your general observations about 1 Kings 19:11-13.

What does this passage tell us about how we often *expect* God to speak to us and how He may actually often does so?

Have you ever experienced the gentle whisper of God? If so, describe the experience and how you knew it was God.

What are some specific ways we can be more attentive to hearing God's gentle whisper?

Read Acts 13:2 and Luke 2:27.

How do these people hear the Spirit speak?

What keeps us from hearing God in these same ways?

In Acts 2:17-18, God declares that in this post-Pentecost age of the Spirit, He will speak to His people through visions and dreams.

Have you ever experienced God speaking to you through either of these means? If so, describe.

Read aloud 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

Why is it important that the Bible provides our foundation for hearing God's voice?

However, why is it also important that we not limit God speaking to us only through the Bible?



Making It Real

In which of the following areas do you most sense the need to grow in the process of hearing God's voice, and why?

Expectancy: to live in the reality that God actually wants to speak to me.

Attentiveness: to position my heart and mind to hear what God might want to say to me.

Discernment: to be aware of whether or not it is God who is actually speaking to me.

What would be a practical next step for you in growing in this area?

Think about a specific question you would like to ask God. After doing this, spend a few quiet moments together, enabling group members to ask God this question and then listen for His response.

Before transitioning to prayer, debrief this experience with one another.

What was it like for you to do this? Did you hear anything, feel anything, see a picture, or were you drawn to a passage of Scripture, etc.?



Prayer and Group Support

In advance of praying for specific requests, spend time praying for the Spirit to help your group members grow in their ability to listen to the Spirit's voice, and take those steps necessary to listen to Him more expectantly, attentively, and discerningly.