

Values Matter Discovery Starters

We Want to Know God

3. HEAR GOD'S VOICE

YWAM is committed to creating with God through listening to Him, praying His prayers and obeying His commands in matters great and small. We are dependent upon hearing His voice as individuals, together in team contexts and in larger gatherings, as an integral part of our process for decision-making.

[1Sa 3:7-10](#); [2Ch 15:2-4](#); [Psa 25:14](#); [Isa 6:8](#); [Amo 3:7](#); [Luk 9:35](#);
[Joh 10:1-5](#); [Joh 16:13-15](#); [Heb 3:7-8,15](#); [Rev 2:7,11,17,27](#); [3:6,13,22](#)

Value #3 – Hear God's Voice: Listen to Jesus

Biblical Foundation:

Then a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him."
(Luk 9:35).

Discovery Starter:

The Jewish people divide the Hebrew Scriptures into three parts – the *Torah* (Law), the *Nevi'im* (Prophets), and the *Ketuvim* (Writings). Together they sum up the entirety of the Original Testament. This is why the resurrected Jesus spoke as he did on the road to Emmaus. Given the Jewish worldview of his disciples, he is saying, "The whole of the Scriptures bears witness to me" (Luk 24:47). However, this tripartite description of the Original Testament, is often summarized – by Jesus and the New Testament authors – simply as "the Law and the Prophets" (See Mat 5:17; 7:12; 11:13; 22:40; Luk 16:16; 24:27; Joh 1:45; Act 13:15; 24:14; 28:23; Rom 3:21).

When Peter, James and John are with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration (Luk 9:28-36), they are amazed to see Moses and Elijah, for these two represent "the Law and the Prophets" like nobody else! Through them God had spoken clearly time and again. Overcome with emotion, Peter suggests building three monuments; excited that Jesus – his rabbi! – was on the par with these great spiritual heroes of old. But then God breaks in and his words make it clear that Jesus is to be listened to above all others.

God communicates through Jesus in a unique, unparalleled way. As the author of Hebrews states, "Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son" (Heb 1:1-2). John calls Jesus "the unique One, who is himself God," and declares that Jesus "has revealed God to us" because he "became human and made his home among us" (Joh 1:14,18). The New Testament clearly establishes that Jesus is God. But the emphasis of this incarnational revelation is not only on Jesus' God-likeness; but on God's Jesus-likeness. Jesus perfectly displays the character of God. Jesus himself says, "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father!" (Joh 14:9), because – as Paul affirms – "God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ" (Col 1:19). There's no one like him. That's why we too are called to, "Listen to Jesus."

Keep Going:

Pick a passage – perhaps a chapter or two – in the Gospels. Ask Holy Spirit to lead you. As you read, consider the words of Jesus; meditate on the acts of Jesus. As you look to him, what do you learn about God? As you listen to him, what is God saying to you? Jesus says, "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me" (Joh 10:27). Keep pressing in to know Jesus better. Listen to him. Focus on him. As you get to know his character more and more, it will become increasingly easier to detect his voice in every moment of your daily walk.

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