

**Imagining a Deeper Faith**  
Core Group Discussion Guide  
July 23, 2017

**Message Overview:**

This is the last Sunday in our series, “Can I Say That,” a series about developing authentic faith. For deep and authentic faith to take root, God must become real to us. Jesus tells us that his sheep hear his voice and listen to him. For many, God is far away and rather distant. He is the all-powerful someone that wants your list of requests. But when it comes to hearing his voice, or pausing to listen, many get uncomfortable and start squirming. This Sunday, we will talk about how we develop a holy imagination that helps us move toward God, listening for his voice. The prayer for this week is that we are better able to bring all of our selves to God.

**Text:**

- John 16:4-15
- Hebrews 11:1
- Ephesians 4:17-24

**Questions for Discussion:**

1. Began with any aspect of the message that people felt struck with.

(This is a good space to have additional discussion before moving forward with this week’s discussion guide)

2. As we think about hearing God’s voice, lets begin by reading Ephesians 4:17-24 together (read)
  - a. What causes people to lose sensitivity to God? (hardness of heart....unwillingness to listen to him)
3. Our willingness to listen to God demonstrates what we value and prioritize in life. There are a number of ways we are tempted to prioritize other values above God’s voice:
  - a. Can someone describe how our sin changes our priorities and causes us not to hear God’s voice?
  - b. Can someone describe how fear can lead us to disobey God stop listening to Him?
  - c. How about daily activities? Can someone describe what it looks like when our daily activities become more important than listening to God?
  - d. Can you think of other things that change our priorities and cause us to stop hearing God?
4. (Group repentance and meditation) Close your time by reading Psalm 51 out loud.
  - a. Spend several minutes of silence reflecting on the passage of scripture.
  - b. Was there any particular line that stood out to you?
  - c. Does anyone have any additional thoughts?

Close in Prayer