

Sermon on Listening

4 May 2014

Leith Valley Presbyterian Church

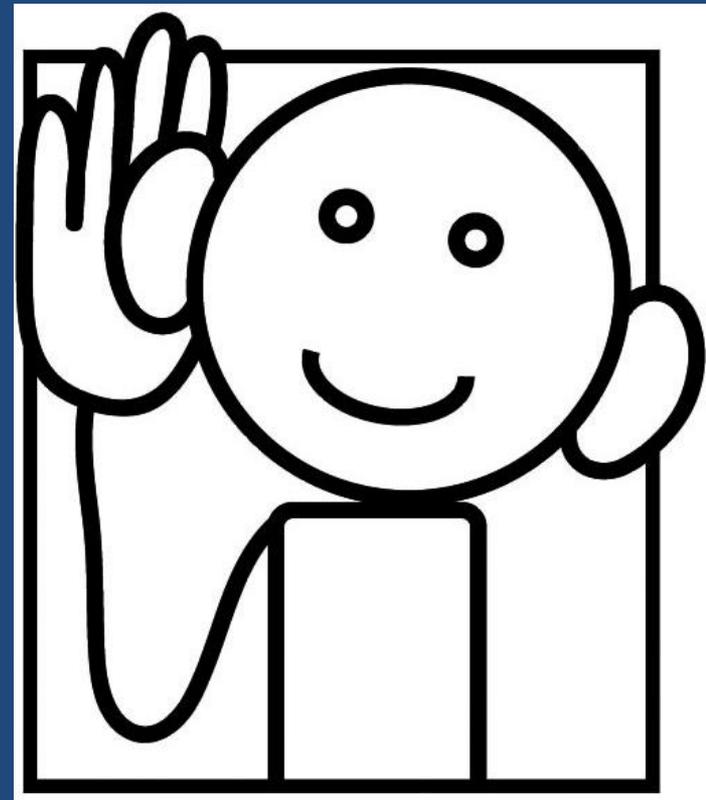
Preacher: Lynne Baab

Scriptures: Matthew 17:1-8

Psalm 46



1. Listening skills (listening to God and listening to people) make a big difference in drawing near to God
2. The obstacles to listening to people and listening to God are similar
3. Those obstacles can be overcome with some effort

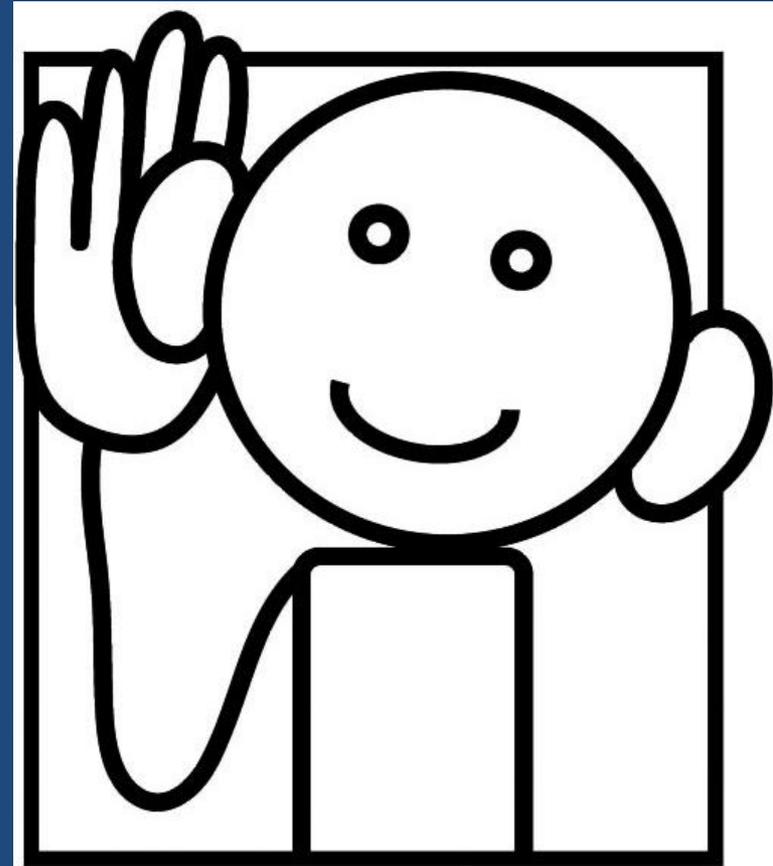


Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!'

Matthew 17: 1-5

2. The obstacles to listening to people and listening to God are similar

3. Those obstacles can be overcome with some effort



# When we don't want to listen we . . .

Do something

Change the subject

Give advice

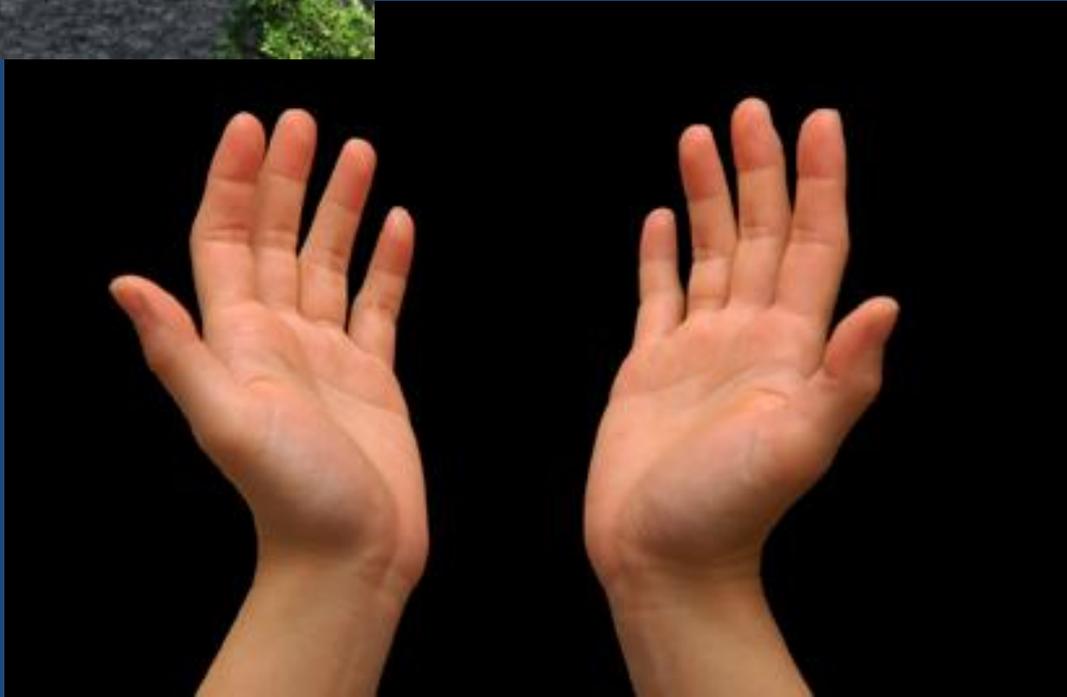
Make a judgment

Tell a story from our own life

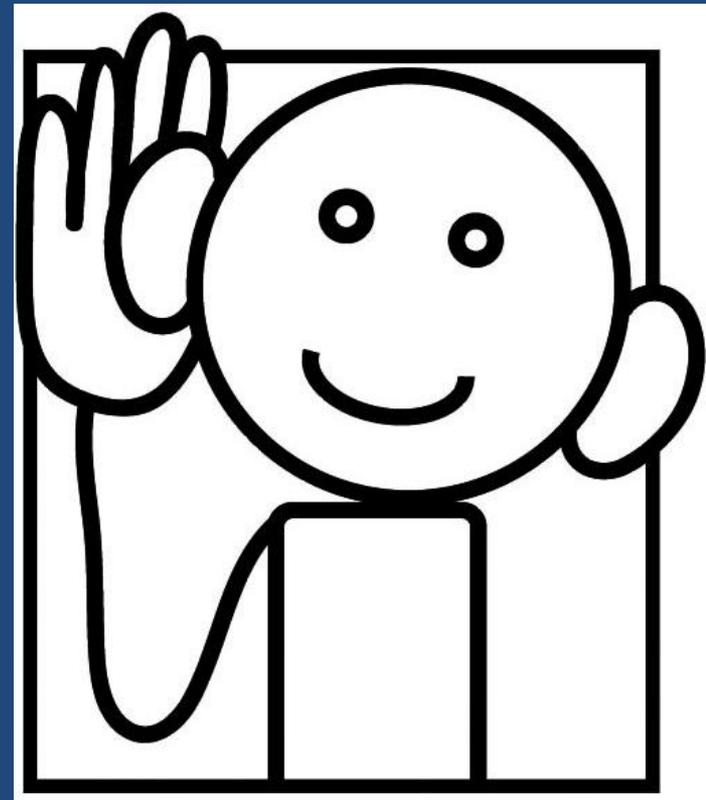
Deny that there's a problem

Ask a barrage of questions



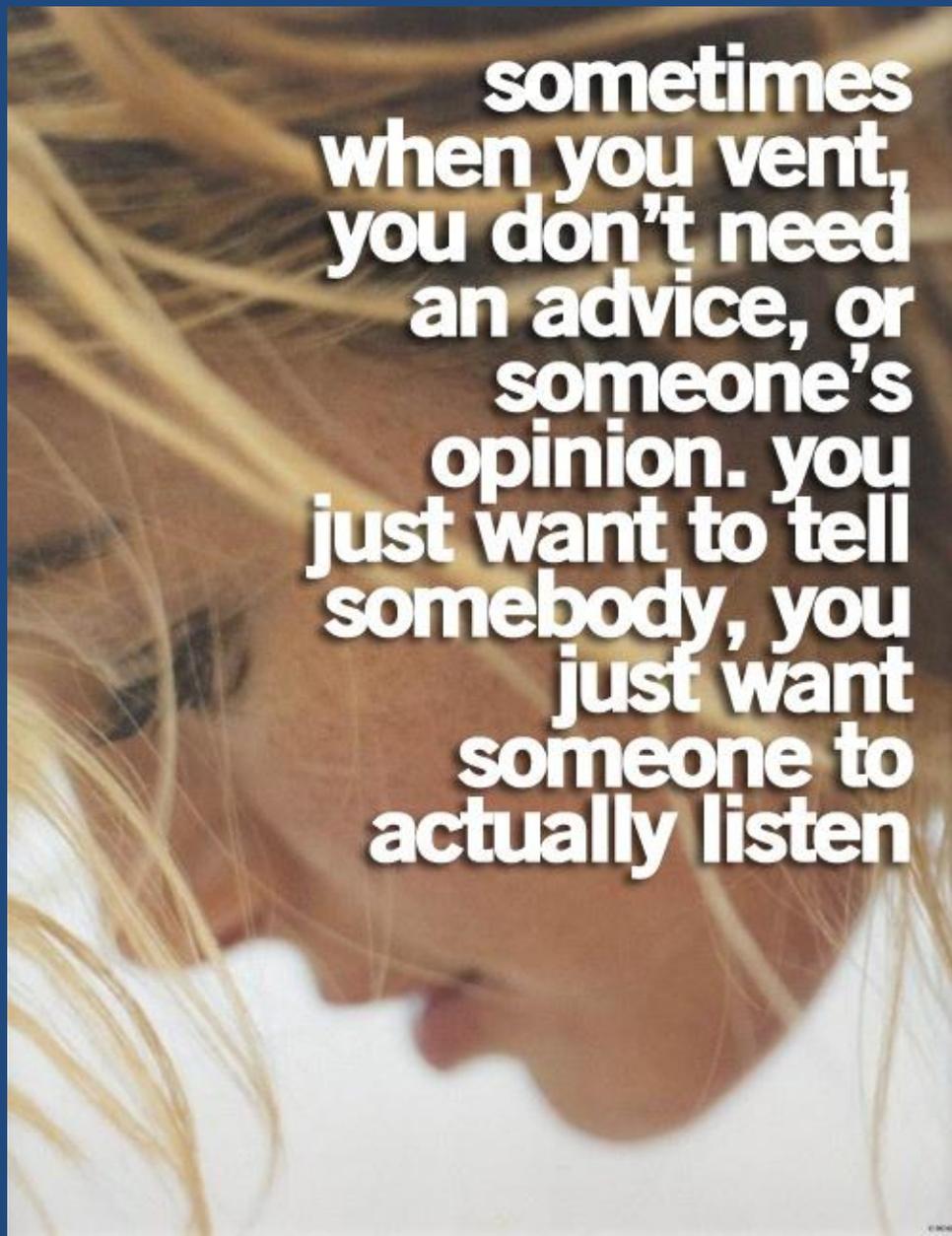


1. Listening skills (listening to God and listening to people) make a big difference in drawing near to God
2. The obstacles to listening to people and listening to God are similar
3. Those obstacles can be overcome but it takes effort



Listening to people helps us draw near to God  
because we . . .

Share the burden



Listening to people helps us draw near to God  
because we . . .

Share the burden

See how God worked in their life

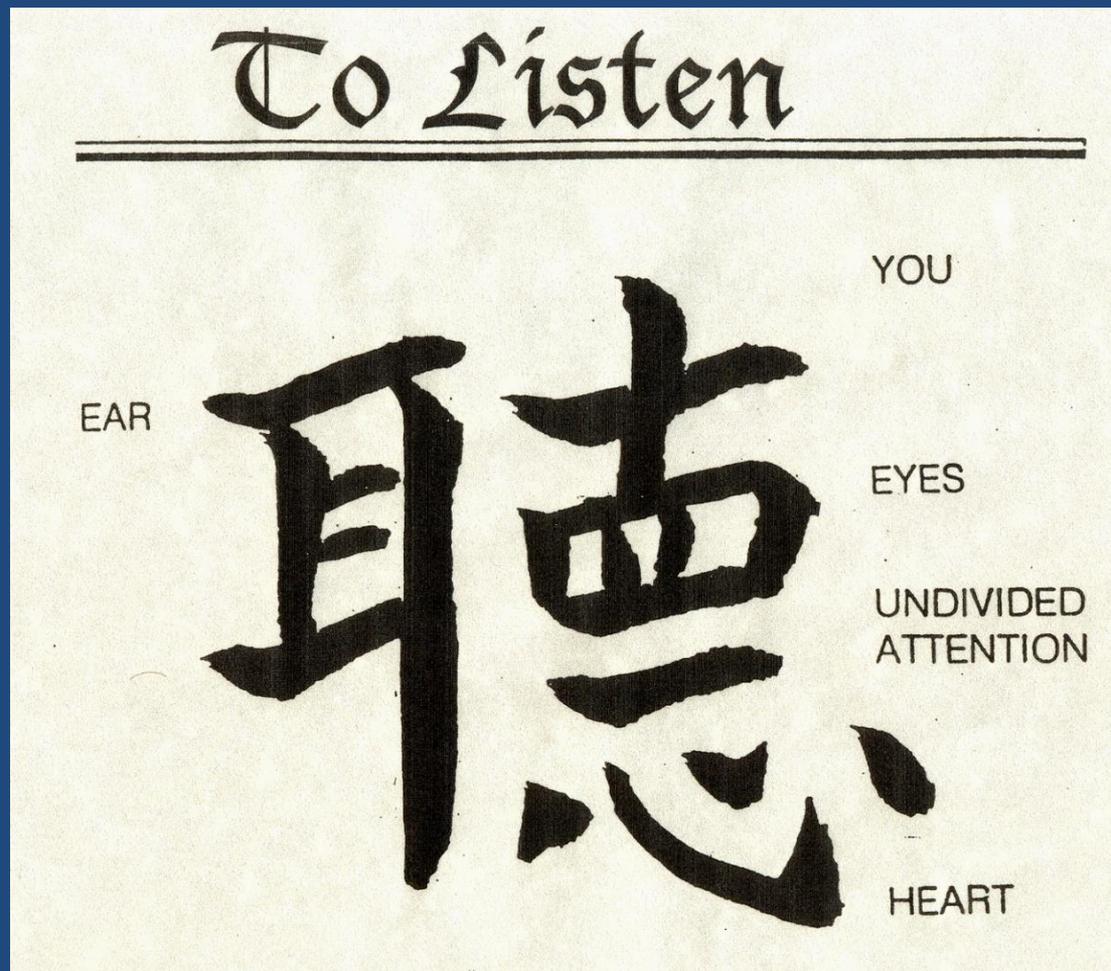


Listening to people helps us draw near to God because we . . .

Share the burden

See how God worked in their life

Learn how to slow down and listen



Be still and know that I am God  
Psalm 46:10



Be still and know that I am God  
Psalm 46:10

We listen to God

Through the Bible

In the voice of other people

In silence

In nature

When walking, washing dishes, waiting in  
a queue, driving, tramping,  
gardening, serving . . .

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2. The obstacles to listening to people and listening to God are similar
3. Those obstacles can be overcome with some effort

‘This is my  
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