

Listening to God – school age
Psalm 19 (from Adam Hamilton's, "The Walk"
May 22, 2022

Gather:

Last week we talked about how important it is we worship and thank God for all He has done. How do we worship God? Do you remember what book of the Bible has songs in it?

Today we are going to talk about listening to God's voice and talk about some ways we can do that.

Nature Collages – craft

(Supplies: natural objects like dried flowers, grass, weeds, leaves, nature pictures from magazine, 5x7 piece of contact paper)

When we look at things in nature with wonder and excitement, we can think about our wonderful God, the Creator.

Have the children use the natural objects and pictures of nature to create a beautiful collage on a piece of contact paper. (Alternately you can have your child glue them in a design on a piece of cardstock).

- Have the children gather items from outside they want to use in their pictures.
- Using the contact paper as the base, remove the backing off the paper and tape to the table.
- Have the children stick the objects and pictures onto the contact paper. Remind them to plan their designs and how they want it to look first before placing the objects.
- Have the children write their names on a small piece of paper and stick the paper upside down on the collage.
- When finished, children can stick another sheet of contact paper on top of the collage.

As we practice listening to God today, think about your favorite trees, plants, and outside spaces. These spaces can remind you about our wonderful God.

Prayer:

SAY: Dear God, thank you for loving us and speaking to us through friends, your wonderful creation and your Scripture. Help us to listen for your voice. Amen.

EXPLORE

Do you know of any people in the Bible God talked to? There are many! Some of the ones you might remember are: Noah, Moses, Elijah, Samuel and Jesus. He also appeared in the dreams of many people including Joseph (Jesus' father) and Peter.

Many of these people were prophets who would listen to God and give the information to others. Today, we might not hear God directly like that, but there are ways God can still talk to us. What are some ways God might talk to us? (Scripture, through other people, nature)

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- Watch “[God Speaks to Me](#)”
- We will be skipping through and watching 1:29-3:10, 7:40-10:30, 16:45-18:47)

Let’s practice our listening skills now. Close your eyes. What are some things you can hear right now? (breathing, clock, other people talking, etc.). Our ears are very sensitive to the sounds around us. God has blessed us with the gift of hearing. However, as we saw in the video, sometimes there are too many distractions around us for us to hear God. We don’t always take the time to just sit and listen.

Hearing God takes practice. Just like people, God uses lots of different ways to communicate ideas. Let’s listen to a psalm about hearing God’s voice through creation and the Bible.

Get out a piece of paper and some colored pencils or crayons. As the psalm is read, color the piece of paper however you would like while listening. You can make shapes, colors or images that you feel from the passage. (listen to the psalm [here](#) or have someone read it while you work)

All Creation Sings

“The heavens are telling the glory of God; they are a marvelous display of his craftsmanship. ² Day and night they keep on telling about God. ³⁻⁴ Without a sound or word, silent in the skies, their message reaches out to all the world. The sun lives in the heavens where God placed it ⁵ and moves out across the skies as radiant as a bridegroom^[a] going to his wedding,* or as joyous as an athlete looking forward to a race! ⁶ The sun crosses the heavens from end to end, and nothing can hide from its heat.”

⁷⁻⁸ God’s laws are perfect. They protect us, make us wise, and give us joy and light. ⁹ God’s laws are pure, eternal, just.^[b] ¹⁰ They are more desirable than gold. They are sweeter than honey dripping from a honeycomb. ¹¹ For they warn us away from harm and give success to those who obey them.”

¹² “But how can I ever know what sins are lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults. ¹³ And keep me from deliberate wrongs; help me to stop doing them. Only then can I be free of guilt and innocent of some great crime.”

¹⁴ May my spoken words and unspoken thoughts be pleasing even to you, O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer.

- How did the psalmist hear God’s voice (through nature and God’s law)
- When we notice God’s wonderful creation and listen to words in the Bible, we can hear God’s voice telling us we are loved and to love others. Creating our own art is another way we can experience God’s voice. Hang up your drawings at home to remind you about the psalmist’s words and how those words make you feel?