

Life Group Preparation Notes
Barbie Erasmus – Sunday 30 May 2021
BLESS – WEEK 3 Listen with Care



Note for the facilitator: We are increasingly aware of how important our own preparation is as the key to being able to be vulnerable in group as well as learning from what God is saying to one another through the Word that we are reading. Let us keep encouraging one another to anchor our lives in God.

Worship: Spend time throughout the week during your time with God listening to [God, You're So Good by Passion](#). As you worship Him, remind yourself of His goodness towards you.

Check-In: Share a praise report that may have come up last week as you committed to praying more. Have you seen God give you an opportunity to have a connection with someone on your BLESS card?

Bible Readings: Anchor: Genesis 12:1-3; Luke 18:35-43; Luke 24:13-36

Preparation and Discussion for Group Time:

1. We looked at BLESS practice two - LISTEN - this Sunday, what has God been saying to you since then?
2. There are times when we feel as if we have not been heard or perhaps that we have not listened carefully to those around us. Barbie highlighted some of the reasons why we struggle to really listen (being busy and just listening to respond and not to understand). She also shared some practical tips to help us to listen properly that are listed below:

- Pay attention
- Ask the (right) questions
- Ask God to help you

Discuss some of the experiences you have had with not being heard or not being able to listen properly and how you are now planning to be more attentive when listening to those around you using these tips.

3. Read Luke 18:41. Notice how Jesus asks the man a question and then takes the opportunity to listen to his needs. Imagine Jesus was asking you the exact same question now, "What do you want me to do for you?", what would your response be? Share this with the group and listen closely with the above in mind to see how you can meet a need or be a blessing to someone in your group.
4. In what ways can you create a moment in your week to intentionally listen to the needs of the people you wrote down on your BLESS card?

Prayer time:

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you hear the needs of the people around you and the wisdom to BLESS them in intentional ways.

Love God:

- **Read Luke 18:41** this week and be encouraged that you can tell God exactly how you are feeling as He listens to you.
- For personal study, here are some suggested **YouVersion** devotionals:
 - [Real Hope: The Art of Listening by Hope Media](#)
 - [Listen. Connect. Help. by Steve Douglass](#)

Love People:

There are many opportunities to Love People coming up - see the Church Center App for more information:

- Be intentional about praying for those people on your BLESS card
- Invite someone to join you at church for Week 4 of BLESS as we look at how we can BLESS by Eating Together