

**LEARNING TO LISTEN**

One of the first things we learn as a baby is to talk. Talking is hard at first, but becomes increasingly easier as we grow older.

While listening becomes almost natural it can be hard to listen at times. It can even become challenging. As we listen to others pour out their heart as they discuss some problem or issue they are facing, we often feel we have to respond by saying something. We feel the need to say words of comfort and consolation when someone is talking about their situation. Maybe they are discussing their pain or regretting their choices or relating experiences that brought them to where they are. We may have to fight off the urge to try to fix their struggle with our words. In situations like these we often ask God for wisdom to know what to say and when to say it.

Here is a different approach to dealing with the struggles others are having. Rather than answering with words, we may just need to listen. I mean more than simply hearing what they are saying, I am talking about listening intently to what they are saying. They may not need answers—they may just need to get something off their chest and they need some ears to hear them.

Job’s friends felt they needed to respond to Job’s woes, but they did a miserable job in helping him. Maybe if they had just listened they would have offered more empathy and understanding.

May God help us to learn to listen. When we listen to those who weep, God grows our heart to love more deeply and more sincerely.

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***Welcome to our services*  SUNDAY Worship…………………………………9:30 AM Bible Class……………………………10:45 AM MONDAY Bible Study……………………………6:30PM WEDNESDAY Bible Study……………………..…..7:00 PM THURSDAY W.I.N.G.S. (Women In God’s Service) Ladies’ Bible Class…………….10:00 AM**

**Monday PM, Wednesday PM and Thursday AM classes will all meet in the West Annex for the present time**

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**TODAY’S SERMON: HUNGER AND THIRST**

Friday Christians



**SKYVIEW CHURCH OF CHRIST 5972 62ND Avenue N. Pinellas Park, Fl – PO Box 3118 33780**

