

Whispers

- When someone claims to have heard God speak, what are some of the typical responses one might hear from those who aren't Christ followers?
- In your experience, are most Christ followers comfortable talking about their experiences of hearing God speak? Why do you think that is?
- Choose several of the passages from the list below and have a couple of group members read them out loud.

God Speaking

- Angels – Luke 1:26
 - Dreams – Matthew 2:12 – 13
 - Symbolic actions – Jeremiah 18:1 – 10
 - Still small voice – 1 Kings 19:12
 - Miraculous signs – Exodus 8:20 – 25
 - Prayer – Acts 22:17 – 18
 - Fire – 1 Kings 18:37 – 39
 - Writing on wall – Daniel 5:5
 - Visions – Genesis 15:1
 - Prophets – Acts 21:10 – 11
 - Preaching – Jonah 3:4
 - Burning Bush – Exodus 3:2
 - Donkey – Numbers 22:28
 - Trumpet – Exodus 19:16, 19
 - Fleece – Judges 6:35 – 37
 - Casting lots – Acts 1:23 – 26
- Read down the list of the ways God has spoken in the past again. Was there anything you found surprising or that really struck you about this list? If so, what was it?

- Using the choices from the list, how would you prefer God to communicate with you? (Limit: 1 Talking Donkey per group)
- Do you believe God still speaks to His people today? If so, in what ways?

Read together:

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

John 10:27 (NIV)

"Go out and stand before me on the mountain," the LORD told him. And as Elijah stood there, the LORD passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain. It was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was the sound of a gentle whisper.

1 Kings 19:11-12 (NLT)

- This passage begins with an awesome display of power, why then do you think God spoke to Elijah in just a simple "whisper?"
- Have you ever heard a "whisper" from God? If so discuss the experience with the group. How did it affect your relationship with God?
- Jesus told us in John 10:27, His sheep hear His voice and listen to Him. Are you learning to listen to the "whispers" of God? If so, how?
- What is God "whispering" to you now? Does He want you to share what you are hearing with the group?
- How can you make God's "whispers" a regular part of the discussion in your group?