

Faith and Heart Podcast: Episode 013 Transcript - The Sacred Act of Listening

07/13/2022

INTRO

[MUSIC PLAYS]

Hi, there. My name is Madison Aichele, and I'm a writer with a passion for sharing honest and encouraging reflections about God's character. This podcast is for the woman courageously choosing faith and heart in a world driven by sight and success. The woman who wants to live with an awareness of God's kind and steady hand moving through what seems ordinary, making it extraordinary. The woman who wants to experience the unhurried peace of trusting God's plan, abandoning the race toward the "next big thing" and, instead, choosing to settle into the God thing. Get cozy if you can, lay your burdens down, even if it's just for a moment.

Welcome to Faith and Heart.

[MUSIC FADES OUT]

MAIN

The sacred act of listening is an art and discipline. It's not easy to keep as a central focus in a world filled with distractions – some outside our control and others self-made. We're a culture obsessed with consumption, and technology has created a reality where noise and distraction are more accessible than ever. Yet, for those choosing faith and heart, listening well is crucial. Listening intently offers a pathway for obedience to be at the root of all decisions. Even the ones that don't make sense to us in the moment.

When you choose faith and heart, you'll often be challenged to make decisions that go against the current of the world's prescribed path. Part of listening well is being open to God's guidance that calls you to walk His path, which isn't always well-worn but something new. And part of listening is remaining confident that He has called you, not wavering in doubt when the pieces don't line up or make sense. Knowing how to hear Him as His voice and wisdom cut through the noise of our everyday lives equips us to move forward confidently, fully assured that we're in step with His Spirit.

The art and discipline of listening are starting to fade because of our culture's desire to fill silence with entertainment and sacredness with sensation. And it's part of our responsibility as women led by God to reclaim this lost art and pave a way forward in the world that adds

something of substance and speaks of salvation. We can't do that by being influenced by the world's noise – we're women who listen to the holy sounds from Heaven and respond with humble obedience. I recently listened to an episode of the Culture Care Podcast; I'll link to it in the episode show notes. As I listened, music started to play over the person's voice. At first, I thought maybe my AirPods were glitching, but then it began to be explained as an exercise of helping people relearn the art of listening. I realized as they explained that I'd stopped doing other things to be attentive to the words being spoken. I didn't want to miss anything because I knew the message mattered.

And I think that paints a beautiful picture of what it looks like to listen to God. We're not always offered silent seasons where distractions don't pop up, and His voice is all we can hear. More often than not, it's a challenge to seek His gentle whisper. Other things will demand your attention, or other noises and voices will be layered on top of His. That doesn't mean He can't be heard or isn't speaking – it means it's an opportunity to lean in and be attentive because we know what He's saying matters. May we be women who learn to always value His voice above all else, leaning in and listening even when it's difficult.

READING

[MUSIC PLAYS]

Today's reading is Psalm 19. May it open our eyes and hearts to new forms of listening as we're reminded that God speaks in diverse and beautiful ways.

The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.
They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.
Yet their voice [\[b\]](#) goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.
In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.
It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.
It rises at one end of the heavens
and makes its circuit to the other;
nothing is deprived of its warmth.
The law of the Lord is perfect,
refreshing the soul.
The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy,

making wise the simple.
The precepts of the Lord are right,
giving joy to the heart.
The commands of the Lord are radiant,
giving light to the eyes.
The fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever.
The decrees of the Lord are firm,
and all of them are righteous.
They are more precious than gold,
than much pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey,
than honey from the honeycomb.
By them your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
But who can discern their own errors?
Forgive my hidden faults.
Keep your servant also from willful sins;
may they not rule over me.
Then I will be blameless,
innocent of great transgression.
May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart
be pleasing in your sight,
Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

OUTRO

Thank you so much for being here! I'm prayerfully believing your week will be one of sacred listening. I'd also love to be able to hear your experience and thoughts about this topic or anything that's been on your heart lately. My calendar is open every Monday and Friday for heart check-ins. You can book some time at the link listed in the episode show notes.

Thanks again. I'll talk to you soon!

[MUSIC FADES]

LINKS

[Culture Care Podcast](#)

[Sign Up for My Newsletter](#)

[Book a Heart Check-In](#)