



Sermon Outline
September 25, 2022
Pastor Bryan Myers

Listen

James 1:19

THE BIG IDEA:

To B.L.E.S.S. your neighbor, Jesus invites you to _____.

Some random thoughts on listening:

** Far too many are better at talking than listening.*

** The opposite of listening isn't speaking.
It's waiting to speak.*

** Listening requires not talking.*

** Listening is wanting to hear.*

** We have two ears and one mouth. Consider the ratio.*

** The problem with communication
is the illusion that it's happened.*

Scriptural admonitions for keeping our ears open more and our mouths open less:

Proverbs 18:13 - To answer before listening—that is folly and shame.

Proverbs 29:20 - Do you see someone who speaks in haste? There is more hope for a fool than for them.

James 1:26 - Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.

James 1:19 - My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

Reasons why we're not better listeners:

* We've not been _____ how to listen.

* We tend to be _____.

** What if our desire was to make others feel important rather than needing to feel important ourselves?*

* Listening requires emotional _____.

It's hard to _____ what you don't have, even listening.

Fortunately, we all have access to the best listener in the universe: _____.

1 Peter 3:12a - For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer...

1 Peter 5:7 - Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Jesus modeled _____ listening.

Being heard is as close to being loved that for the average person, they are almost indistinguishable. - David Augsburger

* He heard the voice in the _____.

* He asked the blind man what he wanted Jesus _____ for him.

Four "H's" that can facilitate good listening:

1. H _____: "Tell me your story."
"Where did you grow up?"

2. H _____: "What's your favorite ...team, restaurant, vacation destination?"

3. H _____: "What are you into?"
"What do you like to do with your free time?"

4. H _____: "How are you doing with (name the situation)?"