



WEEK ONE

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD

PREPARING FOR YOUR SMALL GROUP

Your Small Group kicks off this week! Focus on fostering connection.

WHAT TO COMMUNICATE

- Contact everyone in your Small Group a few days before the group starts to remind them of the key details (day, time, location, childcare, etc.).
- Let everyone know you are praying for them and you're excited for the group to begin.
- Tell everyone to read Week 1 of *Hearing God* before your group meets, so you can discuss it. If someone doesn't read the chapter, that's okay, but reading ahead of time will provide the best discussion.
- If anyone wants to go an extra step, encourage them to answer the discussion questions at the end of each chapter. This will help people process the content and prepare for the Small Group discussion, but this step is completely optional.

WHAT TO PRAY

- Pray that God would bring the people to your group that He wants there. Trust His hand in forming your group.
- Pray that everyone would feel comfortable and that friendships would begin to form at your first meeting.
- As you've stepped out to lead a Small Group, pray and believe that the Holy Spirit will be with you and will help you.



WHAT TO EXPECT

The first week of your Small Group is always exciting! If you have a new group, you might not know who will show up. Contacting each person beforehand is a great practice. Some people may be joining a Small Group for the first time. If so, they might feel nervous or excited.

Plan on spending 10-20 minutes breaking the ice with everyone. Have snacks ready when people arrive and spend time getting to know each other. Setting out name tags for everyone is also a good idea. Before you start the Small Group discussion, go around the room and have everyone share a little bit about themselves (name, family, job, hobbies or interests, etc.).

Prepare a couple of fun ice-breaker questions that everyone can answer. These questions should be fun, easy to answer, and help people connect. Spend extra time this week getting to know each other, even if it shortens your discussion.

LEADING YOUR SMALL GROUP

WEEK 1

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WARM-UP

Who would you describe as someone that God speaks to? Why did you pick this person?

INTRO

Most people know someone they would describe as being close to God—someone God speaks to. But God wants to speak to everyone! Today, we will look at the prophet Samuel and the first time God spoke to him. From his story, we'll discuss how God speaks to us today.

SMALL GROUP VIDEO - WEEK 1

Visit milestonechurch.com/hearinggod

DISCUSSION

1. Have you ever felt God speak to you before? What was it like?
2. **Read 1 Samuel 3:8-10.** Why do you think God repeatedly calls out to Samuel?
3. Samuel's response in verse 10 is so simple. What does his response teach us about hearing from God?
4. How can we position ourselves to hear God's voice more?



5. One of the ways we hear from God is by reading the Bible. Why are commitment and discipline necessary to read God's Word?
6. The purpose of reading the Bible is relational not informational. How does this affect the way you read your Bible?
7. Do you have a regular time and place to hear from God? Explain.
8. What are the benefits of having a set time and place to hear from God?

APPLICATION

What is something you will do this week to position yourself to hear from God more?

PRAYER

- Pray for everyone to follow their plan to hear from God this week.
- Ask God to speak to everyone as they dedicate time to hear from Him.
- Take prayer requests and pray for the needs of the group.