



Series: Pathways: Practices for Spiritual Transformation  
Message: Prayer & Guidance  
Date: March 8 & 9, 2008  
Speaker: Pastor Steve Harling

## Is it conceivable that God speaks to us more than we give him credit for?

*"Why is it that when we speak to God we are said to be praying, but when God speaks to us we are said to be schizophrenic?"* —Lily Tomlin

*"Being open and receptive to the leadings of the Holy Spirit is a non-optional part of our spiritual transformation."* —Richard Foster

## Hearing from God's Spirit is not something reserved for the spiritual elite.

- John 14:16
- John 14:26
- John 15:26
- John 16:13

*"Therefore, consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has will be taken from him."*  
Luke 8:18 (NIV)

## Thoughts on listening to the Spirit:

- Be present to the moment
- Value trust
- Stay teachable
- Seek guidance for the right things
- Follow through with obedience
- Practice listening in small ways
- Be cautious about speaking for God

*"Let us pray that above all else God would make us listeners to himself, so that we may be neither idle nor self sufficient; not rash in our deeds, but ever pausing to listen, and then to follow him, moving in consonance with his will."*