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# Help!

**My spouse isn't listening!**

**Couple's Bible Study**



Where we're going | Focus on the “hot spots”

- **What listening to your spouse actually means**
- **How to talk in a way that your spouse understands**
- **How to listen when it matters most**



## Song of Songs : A King who's not listening

297 Wish we had time now. I got marked here, Solomon quoting, "this girl, the Bride." Oh, we just have to omit it; it's getting too late, see. I'll get it, again.

"When he tries to get her, but she's engaged to a shepherd boy." Some probably thought that was a song he sang. Oh, no.

Solomon was the throne inherit of David, on earth, but showed that kingdom had to pass away. It was a type of Christ in love with the Bride. See?

64-0802 - The Future Home Of The Heavenly  
Bridegroom And The Earthly Bride  
Rev. William Marrion Branham

# What is listening?

Processing your spouse's viewpoint, *where* the other person is coming from, and *why* he/she feels the way they do.

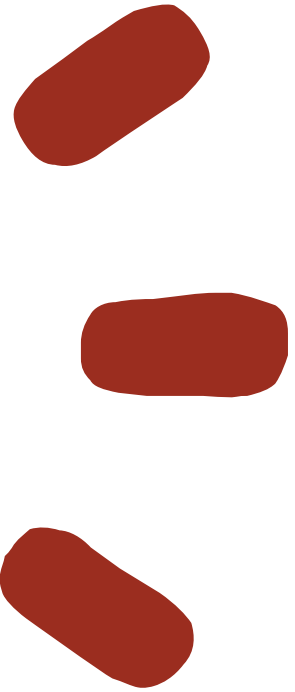
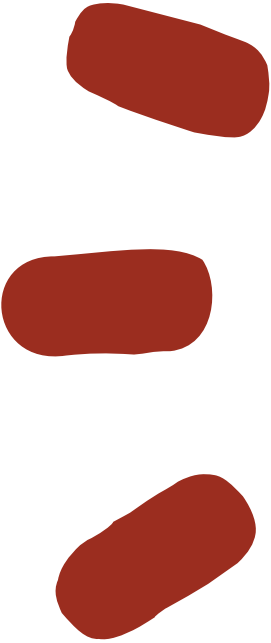
**Not necessarily agreeing**

**What is said & what is unsaid**

# Why isn't your spouse listening?

- Doesn't want to listen
  - Wants to talk instead
  - External noise
  - Internal emotional noise
- You're not talking in a way he/she understands





What happens when  
we don't listen to our  
spouse?



# A look at Scripture



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

“The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,  
and his ears are attentive to their cry.”

Psalm 34:15

“If one gives an answer before he hears, **it is his folly**  
and shame.” Proverbs 18:13

# When a spouse doesn't want to listen

## THE PROBLEM

- Christ: "We talk, He listens"
- Christianity: a "two-way" relationship (same with marriage) | Hearing God's voice
- He feels disrespected
- She feels ignored

## SOLUTION

- Both work to building a climate of complete transparency (The Naked Marriage)
- Assert the importance of your feelings too
- Remember: listening isn't necessarily agreeing
- First step of compromise



How to talk so  
he/she understands



De-emotionalize

How does he/she conceptualize life? (God speaking our  
language: “Fishers of men”)

Repeat it back. Does it make sense to him/her or just you?

How to listen when it matters  
most

Recognize it's about more than you (it's your marriage)

Set the stage for sharing

Step back emotionally

Compromise is part of life

# Quick recap

- Listening=processing your spouse's viewpoints even if you don't agree
- Speak in a way he/she understands
- Be willing to listen



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Questions?

