



**Go Deeper, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024, How Do We Hear From God?**

Dear Miners,

What a big topic – far too big for one sermon or one Go Deeper letter. Do see the Resources section below.

If I could ask for one thing from God it would be to hear from God more often and more clearly. I wonder why I don't spend more time listening! As I mentioned on Sunday, I have a breadth of experiences – from a quiet nagging sense that I need to do something, or an inexplicable peace about a situation, to occasionally having a picture in my mind or a Bible passage for someone. These experiences have given me far more than any reading; I believe we're much more richly blessed by having a go than learning about it.

- For discussion or reflection - how do you feel about hearing from God? Have you ever experienced it? What stories can you share?
- Why not try a prayer walk. Simply go for a walk around the neighbourhood and ask God to prompt you – is anything you could be praying for?
- Have a go at Lectio Divina following the structure in the link below.
- If you are in a small group, why not pray for each other in turn, and take a moment to ask God to show you something for the person. Share any thoughts, images, questions or verses.
- Don't forget those tips – be careful and humble. Phrases 'such I saw this...' and 'I have a sense that...' are ok. 'God is saying this to you' is not – any such thoughts should be framed as a question and tested. If anything complicated comes up, do get in touch.

As ever, let me know if you have any questions, and especially if you have a sense that God is speaking to us as a church.

Every Blessing

Rob

**Deeper Stuff**

A good short breakdown of how to have a go at Lectio Divina is here, with formats for a group or individuals. <https://www.faithward.org/lectio-divina-an-ancient-contemplative-spiritual-practice/>

Pete Greig's book *How to Hear God*. I have this on order and will read it soon, I've heard only good reviews from friends.

<https://standrewsbookshop.co.uk/product/how-to-hear-god/>