

LISTENING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT



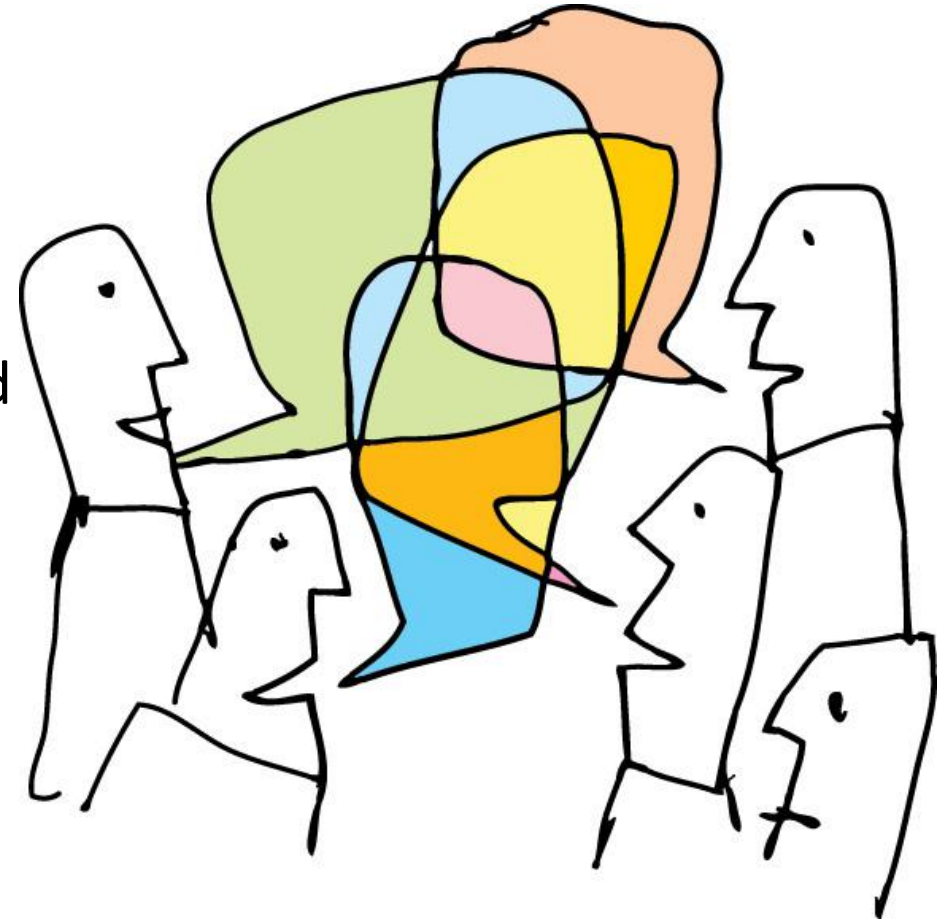
Sunday, March 28, 2020

(by William Auki)

Nairobi Christian Church (Southern Block)

INTRODUCTION

- There are many voices that constantly go out around us
- Today more so because of virus at hand
- The government is giving directives
- Different religious groups are also saying different things
- Social media is full of news: both fake and real ... all mixed up!
- With all these voices, it is important to sieve out what is best so as not to be confused
- The Holy Spirit speaks to us: Are we Listening in?
- BUT To begin with ...



... STAY SAFE AT THIS TIME



- We need to take the advice and direction from the Government and our Health officials very seriously - the beautiful CORONA virus is REAL!
- Let us all adhere to the following:
 1. Washing of hands thoroughly and frequently with soap
 2. Use of approved hand-sanitizers
 3. Maintaining social distance of at least 1 meter with others
 4. Avoid banned gatherings e.g. funerals, weddings, worship centers, rallies etc.
 5. If you feel sick contact the health authorities
- **STAY SAFE!** Protect yourself and others.

LISTENING

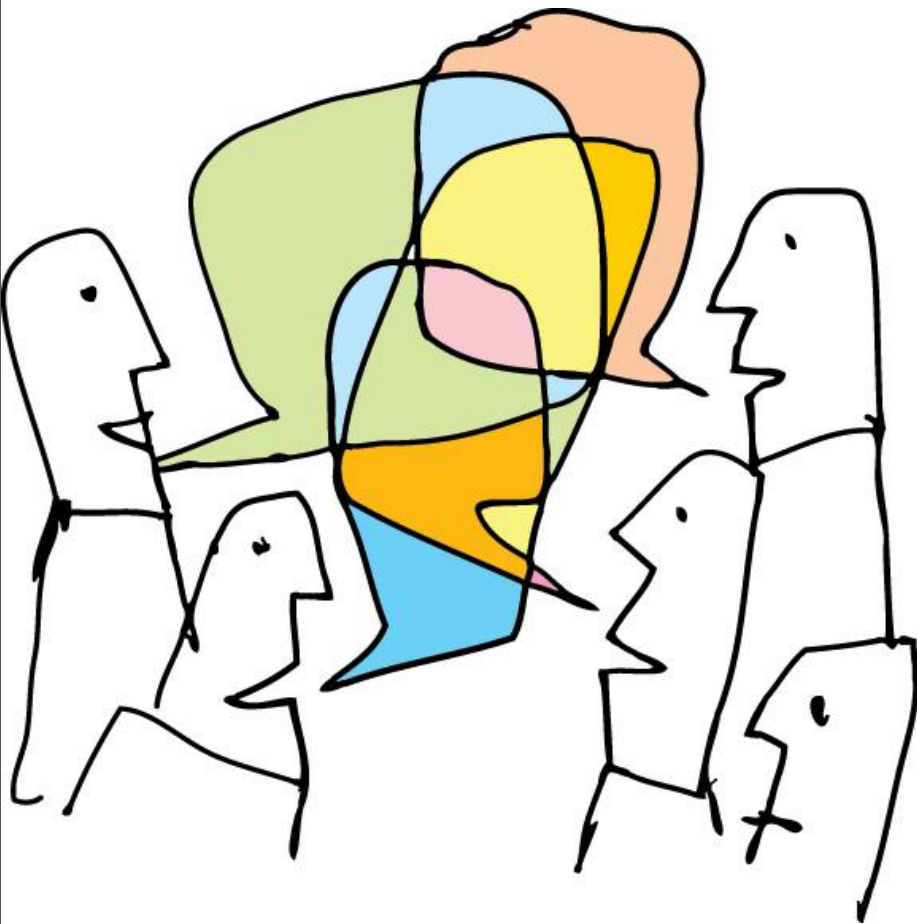
- Listening is not an easy task
- As Christians God, the Father has given us his holy spirit (Matthew 10:18-20)
- The early Christians sought to listen to the Holy Spirit
- The early Christians sought to be led by the Holy Spirit
- With many voices around us, Let us learn from the early Christians
- Let us grow in listening to the Spirit of God and thereby live lives that bring glory to God.
- Let us grow in being led by the Holy Spirit



• Acts 13:1-5

- v1 ***In the church at Antioch there were*** prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul.
- v2 ***While they were worshipping*** the Lord and fasting, ***the Holy Spirit said***, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”
- v3 So ***after they had fasted and prayed***, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.
- v4 The two of them, ***sent on their way by the Holy Spirit***, went down to Seleucia and sailed from there to Cyprus.
- v5 When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the Jewish synagogues. ***John was with them*** as their helper.

Many Voices Are Always There: TRUST GOD



v1 *In the church at Antioch there were* prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul.

There were different leaders in Antioch: Many voices!

- One thing they believed: God was with them and He hears them
- They therefore turned to him in WORSHIP and in FASTING
- There are different leaders today in Nairobi: Many voices!
- They also strive to seek God's guidance when faced with the many decisions to be made
- As they turn to God in prayer and fasting, keep praying for them, so that our spirit may be one as we seek guidance from God

Many Voices on COVID-19: TRUST GOD

- Believe that God is with you and that He hears us
- Turn to God in WORSHIP and in FASTING
- Only on calming down can you hear the voice of the Spirit and receive the encouragement from God
- Trust what the leaders have agreed on and advised for the good of the church

C.O.V.I.D. - 19

Christ over viruses and
infectious diseases

ctto

“Have I not commanded you?
Be strong and courageous.
Do not be frightened,
and do not be dismayed,
for the Lord your God is
with you wherever you go.”

Joshua **1:9** Aven | PHOTOGRID

THEY WORSHIPED TOGETHER

- They heard the Holy Spirit while they were:
 - WORSHIPING together
 - FASTING together
 - PRAYING together
- It is difficult to hear the voice of the Spirit when each one is caught up in their own thing
- Let us be in individual worship; but now more than ever, let us join together in prayer and fasting (though separated)!
- Use the available technology: It has always been there but we have not used it enough! Cell, whatsapp, telegram, skype, facebook, twitter, zoom, instagram, ... communicate and share.

WHO ARE YOU WITH?

v5 When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the Jewish synagogues. *John was with them* as their helper.

- Barnabas and Saul went on preaching and teaching the word of God; even if it means ONLINE/PHONE! at this time
- John was with them: HELPING... let us share the word of God with our friends virtually!
- Let's be a helping hand wherever we are; Each one of us can be of help in something
- Connect with other members of the Bible Talk
- Find out how others are doing
- Pray together over the phone
- Share what you have with others



CONCLUSION

- God is with us: let us not be afraid
- Strive to listen to the voice of the Spirit: do not be clogged by all the noises we hear
- We have a great opportunity to share Jesus with others; and let's do so together, using what we have
 - Let's discuss these issues in our connections
- May God bless you, take care of you, and keep you safe in the Mighty name of Jesus!