

## Chasing the Wind Discussion Questions – Week 2 of 3

1. Let's begin by checking in and having everyone share two things:

1. What has been the best thing that has happened to you this week?
2. What has been either the most challenging or surprising thing that has happened to you this week?

**Today we are exploring the ways in which God speaks to us. Every healthy relationship is built on good communication, and people have different communication styles. So, let's start by talking about the different ways we communicate with the people in our lives.**

2. As I read each of the following descriptions, raise your hand for any that apply to you.

1. First, who would say they are a person of few words?
2. Next, how many of you would say you are good at communicating feelings or emotions?
3. Who prefers to learn new things by reading about them rather than listening to someone explain them?
4. In social settings, who is more likely to talk to many different people?
5. How many of you try to avoid conflict?
6. Who would say talking is one of the primary ways you feel connected to the people in your life?
7. And finally, who likes to get the last word in?

3. Next, let's go around the circle and share if you tend to be an internal processor or an external (or verbal) processor. In what ways do you find this to be helpful and in what ways does it create challenges in your relationships?

4. This weekend Steve taught that God is speaking to us, and the question is, are we really listening? What do you think keeps people from hearing from God?

5. Different people feel connected to God in different ways. Take a look at the list below and share how you feel most connected to God and why.

*I feel most connected to God ...*

- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| *By being in nature                   | *Through silence and solitude   |
| *Through art, music or worship        | *By serving the under-resourced |
| *By caring for others                 | *Through writing or journaling  |
| *By sharing authentically with others | *Through meditative prayer      |
| *Through study or reading             | *Through some other way         |

6. As we read 1 Samuel 3:7-10, it would be helpful if you were able to follow along in your Bible or on the discussion sheet. As we read this passage, listen for what things you

observe about Eli, about Samuel, and about God in this passage. (Have someone read the passage out loud.)

*7 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. 8 A third time the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy. 9 So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10 The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."*

- What things do you observe about Eli in this passage?
  - What things do you observe about Samuel?
  - What things do you observe about God?
7. How does a person know if they are truly hearing from God or if it is their own voice?
  8. When is a time in your life when God answered your prayer or spoke to you in some way?
  9. God often speaks in a still small voice or a whisper. Why do you think He whispers instead of shouts?
  10. What rhythms or practices could you create that would help to put you in a position to consistently hear from God?