

Others Focused Video Script 1

Welcome back!

Thank you again for taking the time to better understand Bayside's cultural values and what it means to be a leader here at Bayside.

A leader at Bayside is a fully devoted follower of Christ who lives a life that seeks to **put God first, is others focused and lives on mission.**

Let's unpack what it means to be "others focused".

Simply put, to be others focused is to:

Honor God's people, their purpose and our relationship with them.

Our Lead Pastor, Randy Bezet says this, "Leadership at its purest definition is influence. So if you want to be a leader you have to have influence and to have influence you have to have relationships with people."

Relationships. Simple, right?

The best way to begin a relationship with someone and to honor them is to **know their story.**

And the only way to know someone's story is to **listen to them.**

Listening is one of the greatest acts of kindness and gifts we can give one another...

...and in a world of constant distractions we have lost the ability to listen well.

I read this recently, "Deep listening is an **act of surrender.** We risk being changed by what we hear. The most critical part of listening is asking what is at stake for the other person. Listen to understand what matters to them, not what we think should matter."

What a beautiful statement, "Deep listening is an act of surrender."

The encouragement from scripture is this, "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, NIV)

Here are some practical tips for listening well as you engage with someone else's story:

1. Turn off all technology.

The TV, the phones, the iPads, anything with a screen! It's hard to be fully present in any conversation with those kinds of distractions. The best gift you can give someone is your full attention.

2. Practice good Listening body language.

We do this by maintaining eye contact, Leaning in, and having an Open Posture. **(Presenter - model what you are asking them to do here)**

3. Ask questions.

Invite them to go deeper into their story, ask clarifying questions. Not sure where to begin? Instead of starting a question with "how's (your job) . . . ", try, "tell me more about (your job) . . . "

4. Practice "active listening"

Regardless of what you hear, **suspend judgment and refrain from making critical opinion statements.**

Active listening also means you are simultaneously listening to the Holy Spirit as well as discerning your environment and what is being said. This will inform how the Spirit leads the conversation.

5. Listen.

Just listen. Don't solve or fix. Listen to what they are saying and let that be enough.

As we reflect on what we covered in this video, we would like to ask you to answer a few questions on the next screen. Questions like....

What do you think the author means by the statement, "deep listening is an act of surrender"?

Think of someone who asked about you and then truly listened to your story. How did that make you feel?

Are you a good listener? Better stated, would others describe you as a good listener?

END OF SCRIPT.....

Action Steps:

What do you think the author means by the statement, "deep listening is an act of surrender"?

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