

Bible Engagement: Reflection

Use this reflection in any or every week across this series

By Beth Barnett

Use this reflection in any intergenerational gather, during prayer time, or during early word.

It brings into focus the themes of Listening for God; and Voice of the Lord

<p>You will need:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of text on screen or printed • Large print out poster of Chris Booth's Art image • Pieces of light blue yarn ~ 30 cm long, enough for one or two each for everyone in your gathering • A6 pieces of card, hole punched in corner. • Pens • Black Navy Felt/Flannel board mounted on a table.
<p>Time required:</p>	<p>3 minutes</p>

Instructions

Distribute the yarn, cards and pens to all among your gathering.

Provide 'station' spaces where these can be accessed around your space by people getting up and moving around, as well as offering the materials to those sitting in the seats. Make sure you affirm both of these ways of participating equally and don't differentiate on the basis of age or mobility or gender or anything else.

Display the collection of images by Chris Booth from the series that include swirls of blue, representing the voice of God (See below).

Reflection

Across these weeks after Pentecost, in many of our Bible readings, the Voice of the Lord is heard by someone in the story.

God speaks in many different 'voices' or ways: great and glorious voices, a hidden voice.

And there are other voices too: the voices of God's people, the voice of protest, the voice of fear, the voice of grief.

Our lives can be full of noisy voices, and it can be hard to listen for God's voice in our lives, or to listen for what our own voice wants to say to God.

So for a few minutes now, we are going to be still and quiet, and listen for God's voice - the voice of the Spirit. And we will listen for what we want to say, deep down, to God - the voice of our own spirit.

Take some wool and hold it in your hands as a sign that you are seeking God's voice. If in this time, words come to mind, and you want to remember them, you can write them on a piece of card, and tie your piece of wool to it.

If it's just something for you, take it home.

If it's words you want to share with everyone, leave the card on the table and swirl the wool up on the board so we can see there is a message for us all.

Leave two minutes of silence; model attending one of the stations and doing the process there to help people feel comfortable with moving around in the silence.

If your community warms to this process, you might make it available as an ongoing opportunity at times through the week, on site, or provide wool and cards for people to take home, and encourage a daily time of quiet listening alone, or as a household, with the opportunity to bring words and thoughts back the following week.



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Art images by Chris Booth to display.
(High resolution versions are included in the Vision and Voices Resources Zip)

