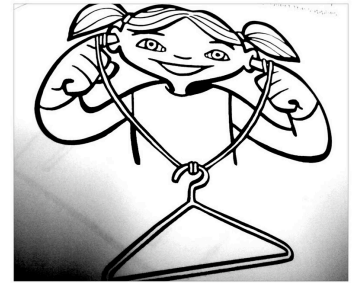


Listen Up: Hearing God is Hard

John 16:13-15; Acts 2:1-21

Materials:

- Wire Clothes Hangers (1 per 2 kids)
- 5-foot Lengths of String (1 per 2 kids)
- Chairs



Instructions:

1. Help the kids to break into pairs and give each group a wire clothes hanger and a length of string.
2. Demonstrate how to tie the middle of the string to the hook of the hanger.
3. Show the kids how to wrap one end of the string around one index finger and the other end of the string around their other index finger.
4. Show the kids how to place their index fingers lightly into their ears and bend over carefully. Let the hanger hit the chair lightly
5. Ask the kids what they think they will hear when they perform the experiment. Then, let the partners take turns doing the trick.
 - a. Surprisingly, they will hear the sound of church bells or an old clock.
6. After everyone has had a turn, collect the supplies.

Questions:

- Did you hear what you expected to hear? Explain.
- Was it difficult to hear or interpret the sound that was coming to your ears?
- Do you think it was hard for the Bible writers to know what God wanted from them and what to write?
- How do you think they were able to write the Bible in the end?

Life Application:

The Bible is an amazing book. It wasn't written by a bunch of people making up a cool story. Many of the writers probably felt like they had to write the story they felt in their heart.

It must have been weird for them to write something they might not have really understood. God helped the writers to be inspired to write the books of the Bible. Being inspired is when you feel like you are being urged—or gently pushed—to do something good and creative.

Like this experiment showed us, sometimes God inspires us in ways that are unusual and difficult to understand. God inspires all people if we learn how to listen to the things we don't expect.