

Introduction:

1. Do you remember a time when you could have given better counsel if you had done a better job listening or asking questions?
2. Do you remember a time when someone spoke truth to you but ultimately gave counsel that was pretty obviously not what you needed most?

Chapter 5: An Intelligent Heart

1. On pages 66-68, the author Scott Mehl makes the connections between listening, love and knowing. What was compelling to you
2. What makes listening difficult for you?
3. Mehl says that listening requires intentionality, patience, compassion and curiosity (pp.70-72). While it would be tough to argue which is most important, which of those four aspects do you most need to develop? How would your listening “look” different if you grew in that aspect?
4. Why is asking questions essential?
5. Who is someone you know who is great at asking questions? If you’ve tried to be a better question asker, what skills did you try to cultivate? Did it work?
6. Mehl gives examples of categories of asking questions: circumstances, behaviors, thought, emotions and motives. What specific advice did Mehl give that you want to incorporate going forward?

Chapter 6: What’s Most Needed?

1. On pages 81-82, Mehl gives some basic guidelines to interpreting what we hear. What are the key ideas? Try to summarize these pages in one sentence.
2. Mehl lists two main errors in interpretation on pages 83-85. What are they? When have you committed one of those errors in interpretation? Or when has someone done that toward you?
3. In the section “The Biblical Call to Consider” (pp.86-87), what does Mehl say to convince you that you need to consider before answering?
4. What is the value of considering each of the following: Someone’s circumstances? Their capacity? Their commitment?
5. On page 89, Mehl asks, “Does this all sound pretty overwhelming?” Does it to you? What encouragement does he give on pages 88-89 that helps you?

Conclusion:

1. What is your biggest take away from this morning?

Additional Resource for Chapter 5: Link to X-ray Questions from Dave Powlison:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/18anyaM0169JWKXB5D2Q_HP5_3BWL_8p/view?usp=sharing