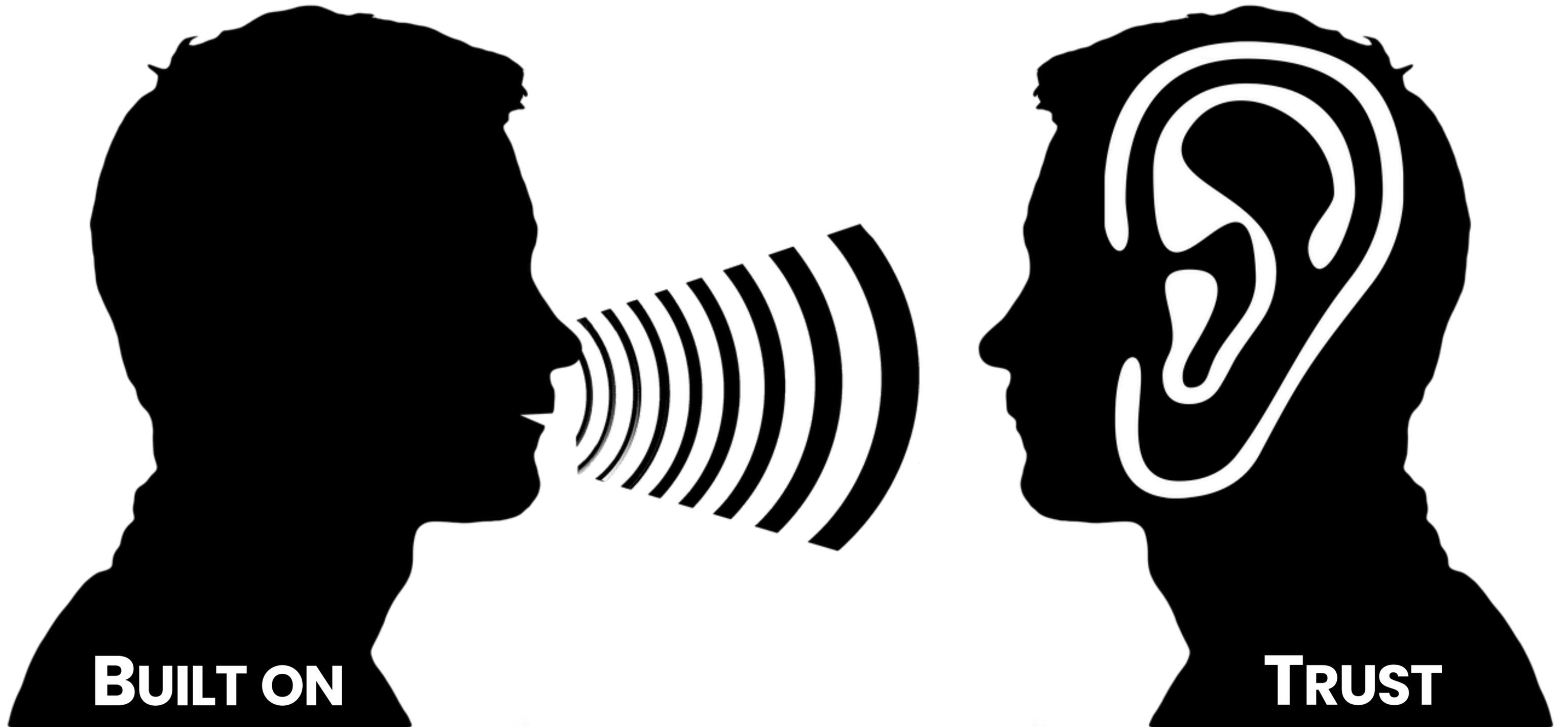


# LISTEN FIRST



**BUILT ON**

**TRUST**

## MARK 9:2-8 (NIV)

<sup>2</sup> After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. <sup>3</sup> His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. <sup>4</sup> And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

## MARK 9:2-8 (NIV)

<sup>6</sup> (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)<sup>7</sup> Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud:

**“This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”**

<sup>8</sup> Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

# Listening

To listen means not only to genuinely seek to understand another person's thoughts, feelings, experience, and point of view, but to do it before you diagnose any problems, influence any decisions, or prescribe any solutions.

WHEN WE LISTEN

WE BUILD TRUST

LISTENING BUILDS THE  
FOUNDATION FOR INTIMACY

## MARK 9:2-8 (NIV)

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DO YOU LISTEN TO JESUS?

DO YOU SPEND TIME READING HIS  
WORDS, SUSPENDING ANY JUDGMENT,  
TO SIMPLY UNDERSTAND WHERE HE'S  
COMING FROM?

## JESUS TALKED ABOUT LISTENING

Luke 8:17–18: There is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open. <sup>18</sup> Therefore consider carefully how you **listen**.

John 10:27: My sheep **listen** to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

John 18:37: The reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth **listens** to me.”

# Pretend Listening

When one spends  
“listening” time thinking  
about his or her reply  
and just waiting for their  
turn to speak.



# ἀκούω

To pay attention to  
a person

---

## James 1:19

My dear brothers and sisters,  
take note of this: Everyone  
should be quick to **listen**  
(**ἀκούω**), slow to speak..

# ἀκροατής

a forgetful hearer

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## James 1:22

Do not merely **listen**  
(**ἀκροατής**) to the word,  
and so deceive yourselves.  
Do what it says.

## MARK 9:2-8 (NIV)

<sup>2</sup> After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. <sup>3</sup> His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. <sup>4</sup> And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup> **Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”**

## MARK 9:2-8 (NIV)

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Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud:

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<sup>8</sup> Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

Castle

Movie

Blade

Bug

Pickle

Dance

Pump

1 John 5:14 (NIV)

This is the confidence we have  
in approaching God: that if we  
ask anything according to his  
will, he hears (ἀκούω) us

ἀκούει

## COMMUNION DISCUSSION

1. What could your life look like if you listened first to Jesus before you listened to anything or anyone else?

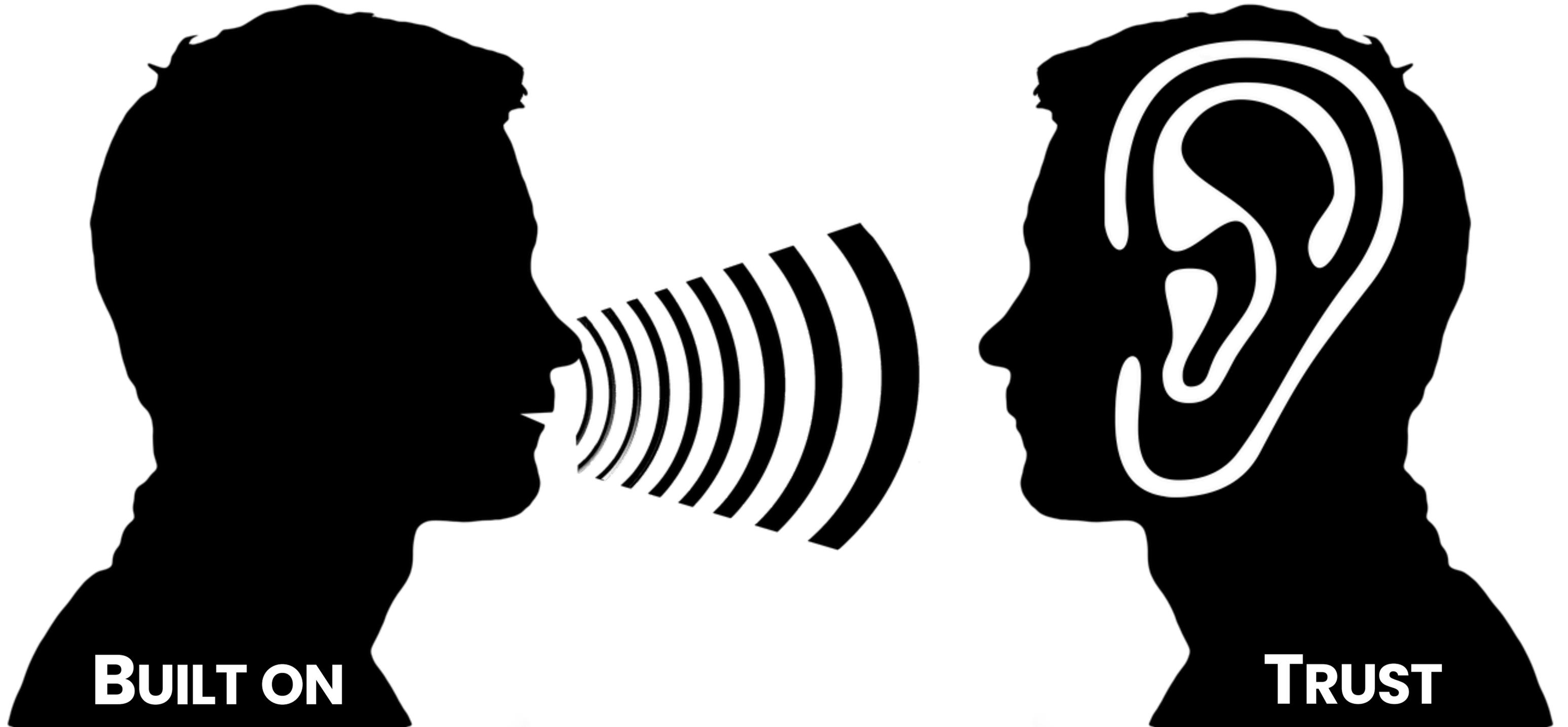
2. How does it feel to know that God wants to listen to you?

## ACTION STEPS

1. Think back over your interactions with others during the past week. Think of a time when you did or didn't Listen First. What were the results? What would have been the results if you had behaved differently?

2. Apologize to at least one person that you failed to listen to this past week. Make time to actually listen

# LISTEN FIRST



**BUILT ON**

**TRUST**

**EXTRA**

1. Do you listen to Jesus?

2. Does Jesus listen to you?

3. Do we listen to each other?