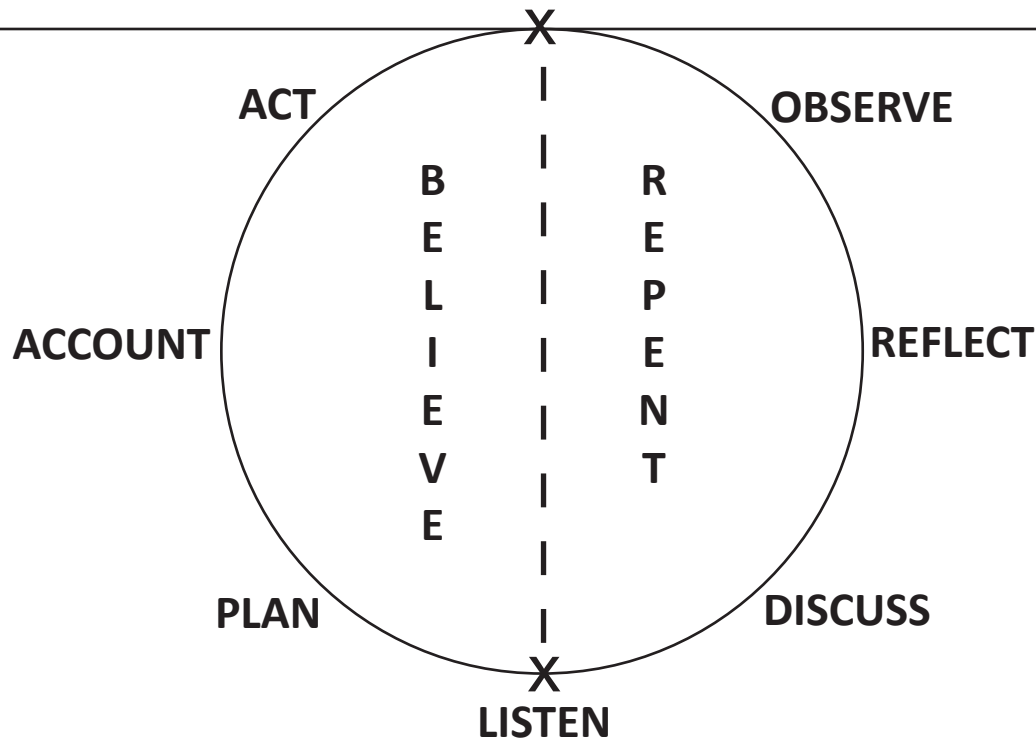


Learning Circle



Key Scripture: Mark 1:15

Shape Teaching:

1. Read Mark 1:15. Draw a straight line, which represents Chronos time. Chronos is the Greek word for ordinary time. Then mark a Kairos moment on the line with an X. Kairos is the Greek word for “a critical or opportune moment,” “at just the right time.” Then draw a circle down from the X.
2. As we learn to notice and listen to God more in our lives, we can learn to recognize Kairos moments. Moments when God is grabbing our attention in some way. Maybe it as a life-altering event, or maybe an ah-hah moment or a simple worry. It could also be a word, phrase or theme that sticks out to you from your Scripture reading. The Learning Circle is a tool that helps us notice the Kairos moments and encourages us to stop and listen for what God is doing and saying to us through them.
3. There are seven parts to the circle:
 - a. The first part is Observing. This is the “what.” We are gathering facts about what we noticed.
 - b. Next is Reflection. This is the “why.” Why did this grab my attention? This involves reflection on past experiences that contribute to your initial Kairos moment.
 - c. Discussion is essential to the learning process as we engage in the journey together. Whether you are in a huddle or in spiritual friendship, it is important to discuss our Kairos moments with others as well as invite them to listen with us and for us.
 - d. As we reach the bottom of the circle, take a big pause for intentional Listening. We’ve made our observations, we’ve reflected and discussed with others. Now we get to ask God the question: what are You saying to me? More specifically, we are asking, “what do You want to say to me about Yourself or myself?” We frame it this way because we often jump to a state of doing rather than being. We want God to tell us what to do rather than listen for His heart. As we listen for His heart, we can summarize it into a short phrase like “*Laura, you are safe*” or “*Laura, I love to take good care of you.*”
 - e. Once we have heard His response, we can now make a Plan. This plan is simply how I lean into what I’ve heard. How will I keep listening to what I have heard? The plan must be doable and measurable.
 - f. Account means that you are not in this alone, we do this together. Who is checking in on you with your plan to listen? If you are in a huddle, we know that huddle will check in with us next week for both accountability and encouragement.
 - g. Act is how we respond in our daily life. We invite God to renew our minds with His truth as we engage with our plans and as we learn to believe what He is saying to us.
4. In the Mark passage, we hear Jesus say “repent and believe the Good News.” The learning circle helps us to live in this way. To notice what God is doing, listen for His Good News, turn away from, or repent, from our old ways of thinking and believe what He is telling us. The first side of the circle is the repent side: to change our thinking and turn to God. The second side of the circle is the belief side: imbedding the truth into my daily life.