



He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

1 Kings 19:11-13  
NRSV

## “Competing Voices”

May 3, 2019

“Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.” 1 Samuel 3:9

### Competing Voices

We are bombarded by voices that compete for our attention, time, and ultimately, our \_\_\_\_\_.

The voices we heed will determine the \_\_\_\_\_ of our lives.

These voices come from a variety of sources—from advertising and the media we consume to our \_\_\_\_\_.

In the midst of so many competing voices, how do we \_\_\_\_\_ the voice of God?

### Elijah and the Voice of God

Elijah had just defeated the prophets of \_\_\_\_\_, evoking the ire of King Ahab and Queen Jezebel.

Fearing for his life, Elijah fled to \_\_\_\_\_.

Elijah encountered God in the \_\_\_\_\_.

God’s voice rarely conforms to our \_\_\_\_\_.

If we are not careful, we will listen to the voice we \_\_\_\_\_ to hear.

### Discerning God’s Voice

We seek God in \_\_\_\_\_.

We seek God in \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Discernment grows out of the life of faith rooted in community.”*

Henri Nouwen

We seek God with \_\_\_\_\_.

 *To know God’s voice, seek God’s heart. #ICfridays*

### Action Steps

1. Spend at least \_\_\_\_\_ in silence each day.
2. Identify people who will pray for you and whom you can pray for.