"The Art of Hearing" Sermon Series

Week 1: "Hard of Hearing" HPC @ Home Guide

Scripture: Luke 4:21-30

Takeaway: God's voice shapes us.

Take some time to share:

• One thing that you are thankful for this week.

- One thing you need.
- How can the group help?

Bible Discussion: Read Luke 4:21-30

- Do you find it significant that this all takes place just after Jesus is tempted in the wilderness?
- Jesus was essentially the Galilean home-town hero. What must that have been like for him to return home after everyone has heard of his miracles?
- Read the scripture that Jesus quotes in vv. 18-19. Why did Jesus quote this scripture?
- What is he trying to accomplish with his comments about Elijah & Elisha?

Application:

- It's not difficult to imagine why the Galilean's thought they might get preferential treatment. They are the ones who raised Jesus...after all. How often do we, as Christians, think that we deserve special treatment? (Surely, we deserve more than THOSE people.)
- Do you think that Jesus was "tempted" to give the people what they want so that he could sit back and enjoy the easy praise?
- Have you ever been "tempted" to take the path of least resistance to maintain the status quo?
- Jesus risked being a pariah in his own hometown because he believed his message was more important than his own comforts. What was his message & how can we translate its significance for our lives today?
- Are there scriptures that you can agree to upon hearing them initially, but have harder time truly "hearing"?

Challenge: When C.S. Lewis described Aslan the Lion (a stand in for Jesus in his series "Chronicles of Narnia"), he said, "of course he is not safe, but he is good!" Consider this week how we, as believers, are playing it safe. Step outside of your comfort zone & do something scary in the name of Christ this week.