



LARGE GROUP FACILITATOR GUIDE

The Power of a Whisper – Bill Hybels

Message length 18:58 minutes

Goal – *Hearing God. Having the Guts to Respond.*

Session Details

This excerpt is taken from session one of The 2010 Global Leadership Summit. Bill Hybels believes that the greatest buzz of the Christ-following life comes from hearing directly from God—sensing his guidance to lean into some situations and steer clear of others, to speak a word one moment and fall silent the next, to adopt bold new practices and ditch the self-destructive habits that only do us harm. Bill will challenge each of us to hear God and have the guts to respond to His promptings.

Speaker Introduction

Bill Hybels is the founding and senior pastor of Willow Creek Community Church and chairman of the board for the Willow Creek Association. He convened The Leadership Summit in 1995 following a God-given prompting to help develop the spiritual gift of leadership in the local church.

A highly sought-after conference speaker on issues related to Christian leaders, Hybels is the best-selling author of more than 20 books including *Courageous Leadership* and *Axiom: The Language of Leadership*.

As leaders, we are constantly faced with decisions where additional wisdom is needed.

Let's welcome Bill and listen to what he has to share.

Message Beginning

Bill Hybels: I don't think you ever get from here to there in a straight line. I don't think you ever amass fantastic people, I don't think you make much progress on the journey without hearing from God en route, without hearing from God in the process.....

Message End

END: "Gang I am absolutely convinced that if beginning now, for the next couple days if you will say "speak Lord your servant is listening, I have my antenna up I cleaned off all the little pieces to it." When you feel these promptings and nudging's, experiment, practice with them, and see where God takes you—and I think it will help you get from here to there the right way for the right reasons."

NOTE: Consider how you will transition out of the video message into a personal connection with your audience. Will you use music or another art form? Will you step up to make a personal connection? Will you ask people to interact with others or spend time to reflect in silence?

Facilitator Close — *What were the new ideas that moved your heart? What is your story? Did you hear the Holy Spirit whisper?*

Bill feels that if leaders worldwide were gaining the additional wisdom needed, gaining the additional support required, and the additional direction that a “whisper” could give them, we would see incredible changes in leadership all over the world. He shared that the smartest moves he ever made as a leader didn’t come from his human wisdom “it came from promptings of a wisdom beyond my own”. Getting from here to there is never a straight line—we need to hear from God in the process.

INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION

Think about the list of whispers that Bill Shared. Did any of them speak to you?

If not, you might want to express your openness to hear from God and say “speak Lord, your servant is listening.”

Process Time — *Give people time to process and interact – don’t be afraid to allow space for people to work. Close the service as you see appropriate.*