



## BLESS STORIES: LISTEN

### YOUR "LISTEN" STORY NEXT?

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L listened to a mom on a plane flight talking about the struggles of her teenage daughter; soon they discovered they are nearly neighbors and exchanged contact information.

D met a man on a plane and listened as he shared that he was part of a common faith background ... and then later he said a follower of an Eastern religion at the same time. D listened despite the obvious contradiction ... and at the end of the flight the individual expressed clear interest in keeping in touch by e-mail.

A Valley member listened patiently to an unchurched visitor state his objections to sermons he had heard at Valley over a period of a few weeks. "It was a challenge to just listen and not point out the flaws in his statements, but that's what I was sure God wanted me to do at this time," the Valley member said.

M dropped in at a neighborhood party, listening and participating in several conversations about faith.

Annette struck up conversations and listened as two total strangers poured out their life stories and problems. They live two miles from Greene-Hills School, and Annette invited them to the Bristol Campus.

Lois listened to her neighbor, who shared about a tough divorce.

Tim listened and had a "robust" conversation about faith with attendees of a church with very different views about the Bible.

Mark listened to the questions a teenager had at the High School Retreat; after good conversation the teen accepted Christ into his life. **Kingdom win!**

Lois spent time listening in a good conversation with a former public-school educator who does not know the Lord.

Olga listened to an Alpha attendee who wanted to share with her that she was finally finding her path in life. Olga then had the opportunity to invite her to another Christ-centered event, which was accepted!

Steve listened to a person who wanted to share that he/she had just made a commitment to follow Jesus. **Kingdom win!**

Elena forged a great listening opportunity by conversing about Christianity with a self-identified atheist during school!

Steve listened to a man who heard Pastor Jay preach and afterward shared that he was tired of a drug being his god. Pray for the Holy Spirit to continue His work in the man's life.

Sean listened to a teenager and discovered she is desperately seeking to know about God. His listening led to a discussion and now the teen is coming to church!

Maria listened to her neighbor's questions about Christianity. The neighbor's husband is Muslim. She asked about why Jesus had to die on the cross.

Heather listened to a good friend who's suffering from chronic pain and is not yet a believer. After listening, Heather shared the good news of God's love, along with scripture.

Cherie listened and was aware of others' needs when she noticed her boss was down. Heard some personal things that Cherie could then pray for.

Chris listened to Dan, who reached out for someone to share his sad news about his ill father. Praise God that a

non-believer sought someone in our church for comfort during a time of great need.

Brandon listened to G by asking about her visit to Valley; she said she would like to come back to church!

Christine met and listened to a friend who rarely expresses interest in faith matters. She turned to Christine to confide in while sharing some troubling news about her family.

Mike listened to NM, who shared for the first time where he was in his faith journey.