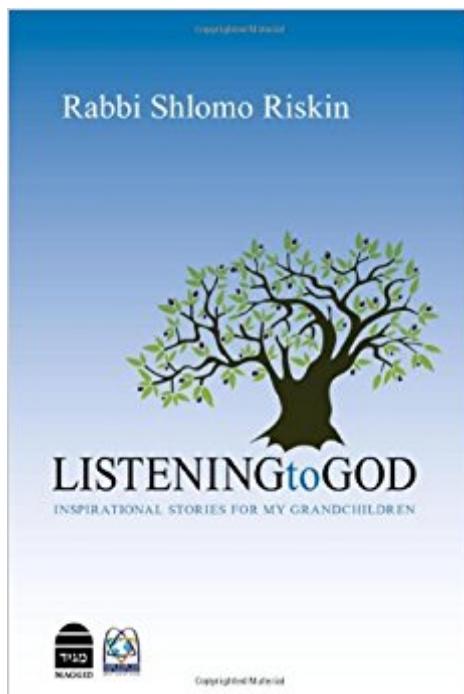


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# Listening To God: Inspirational Stories



## **Synopsis**

See the divine in every human encounter. Be receptive to God's voice. Act out of faith. These are just a few of the life lessons Rabbi Shlomo Riskin imparts in this collection of personal stories. Rabbi Riskin takes us from his grandmother's Brooklyn Shabbat table to the vibrant community of Efrat, Israel, with stops in Russian Jewish communities struggling to maintain their ethnic identities, New York synagogues tackling political controversies and much more. Through these poignant, entertaining, often humorous tales, Rabbi Riskin passes on wisdom for the next generation and, indeed for us all.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Rabbi Shlomo Riskin is a widely respected spokesperson and activist for Modern Orthodoxy in Israel. He serves as Chief Rabbi of Efrat and Chancellor of the Ohr Torah Stone Institutions, a network of high schools, colleges, seminaries and rabbinical schools. Before moving to Israel in 1983, he was Associate Professor at Yeshiva University, and the founding Rabbi of Lincoln Square Synagogue, New York.

Let me confess a bias. I learned Talmud with Rabbi Riskin at LSS. It was a life altering experience. That said-I loved this book but it was not what I thought it would be. I wanted a book of stories to tell MY grandchildren. This is really a book of stories for the Riskin grandchildren because it is about the Rabbi's life. It has been a fascinating life. But I do not think my grandkids would love many of these stories the way I did. Many are for adults. Most are quite sophisticated. They are

really the amazing and inspiring bautobiography of a great man. Many of the stories are great but only if you know and/or care about Rabbi Riskin or his period of time. These stories are NOT like those of a Carlebach or Krohn. So truth be told, I was a little disappointed. But that it a strange thing to say about a book I could not put down. I loved the book. I cried at parts. thank you again, Rabbi Riskin. But these are stories for my wife and I, kiruv workers still, who see you as a great man and role model. Many of the stories also certainly are for anyone who wishes to be inspired to accomplish more with his or her life. Most are not, at least yet, for my grandkids.

Rabbi Riskin is a loving and kind Rabbi. These stories are about Rabbi Riskin's life, but I think the messages behind the stories could apply to anyone. Inspirational!

A friend suggested that I purchase this book. He assured me that I would 'like it'. I did so and he was right. I know the author but not well having gone to the same university as he, Yeshiva University, albeit many years later and often seeing him there during his teaching tenure. Nonetheless, ALL of his Yeshiva University stories resonate and some are part of the school's lore especially those dealing with Rabbi Soloveitchik, in whose class I too studied years after the author but reading his recollections quickly reminded me of the Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday" nervous stomach" and the absolute terror of being called on to read or recite before this incredible pedagogue. His family stories of the wizened and wise grandparents and parents who allowed him to grow and develop also struck a responsive chord. The book is very readable and can be put down and picked up days later with no loss of continuity inasmuch as the entire volume is a compendium of stand alone stories and reminiscences.

Haven't finished it, but finding the short stories wonderful!!! Wish I could be part of his shul. He knows how to be with people.

A wonderfully enjoyable book. I found each entry to be pretty easy reading - that didn't detract from the inspiration in each story. My wife and I have both read chapters to guests at our shabbat table. I think that this book adds much to our understanding of modern Jewish leadership

Amazing book. Stories very moving, funny, insightful.

Rabbi Riskin writes a lucid, interesting, and enjoyable account of his life in what is basically an

autobiography filled with beautiful stories and anecdotes about his life. Rabbi Riskin, one of the great Modern Orthodox rabbis of our time, has many tales to tell. Coming from an unobservant family, it seems like fate guided his life through his schooling at Yeshiva University in New York, and with the influence some of the greatest rabbis and teachers, including the dean of American modern Orthodoxy, Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik, to become the great intellectual and spiritual leader that he is. Listening to God:Imspirational Stories, is a very inspiring and compelling story of a very special leader in contemporary Jewish life both here in America and in Israel where Rabbi Riskin now resides.

Great read.

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