

WHEN JESUS QUOTES

THE OLD TESTAMENT

HEARING BUT NOT UNDERSTANDING

MATTHEW 13:10-17

The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?" He replied, "Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. This is why I speak to them in parables:

"Though seeing, they do not see;
though hearing, they do not hear or understand.

In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah:

"You will be ever hearing but never understanding;
you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.

For this people's heart has become calloused;
they hardly hear with their ears,
and they have closed their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts
and turn, and I would heal them. '

Deuteronomy 29:4

Jeremiah 5:21

Ezekiel 12:2

Isaiah 6:9-10

But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. For truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it

MATTHEW 13

- ▶ “Why do you speak to the people in parables?”
- ▶ He replied, “Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.
- ▶ Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.
- ▶ This is why I speak to them in parables:

“Though seeing, they do not see;
though hearing, they do not hear or understand.
In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah:

ISAIAH 6:9-10

He said, "Go and tell this people

"Be ever hearing, but never understanding;
be ever seeing, but never perceiving. '

Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed."

MATTHEW 13:14-15

"You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.

For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them. '

2 TYPES OF HARDENING OF HEARTS

1. Done by self - (snowball analogy)
2. Done or allowed by God for a specific purpose (Pharaoh)

JOHN 5:31-47 - THEIR CHANCES...

- ▶ Hardening by Self (snowball analogy)
 - ▶ John [the Baptist] (v. 33) See John 1:19-34, 1:34
 - ▶ Jesus' works (v. 36)
 - ▶ The Father (God) (v. 37) See Matt. 3:17
 - ▶ Scriptures (Old Testament) (v. 39)
 - ▶ Moses (v.46) See also Deut. 18:15, Acts 3:22

THE SNOWBALL ANALOGY

John [the Baptist] (v. 33)

Jesus' works (v. 36)

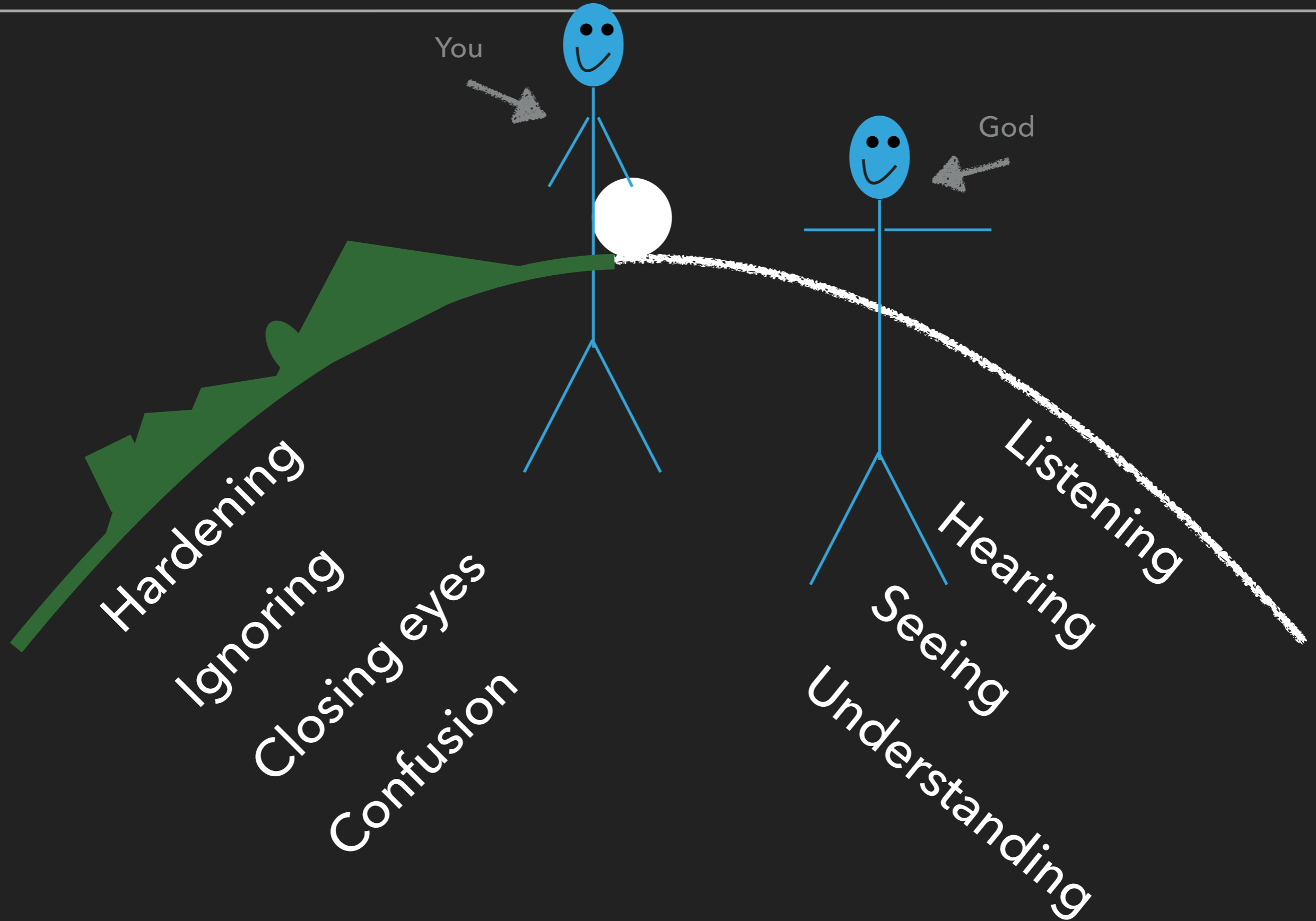
The Father (God) (v. 37)

Scriptures (v. 39)

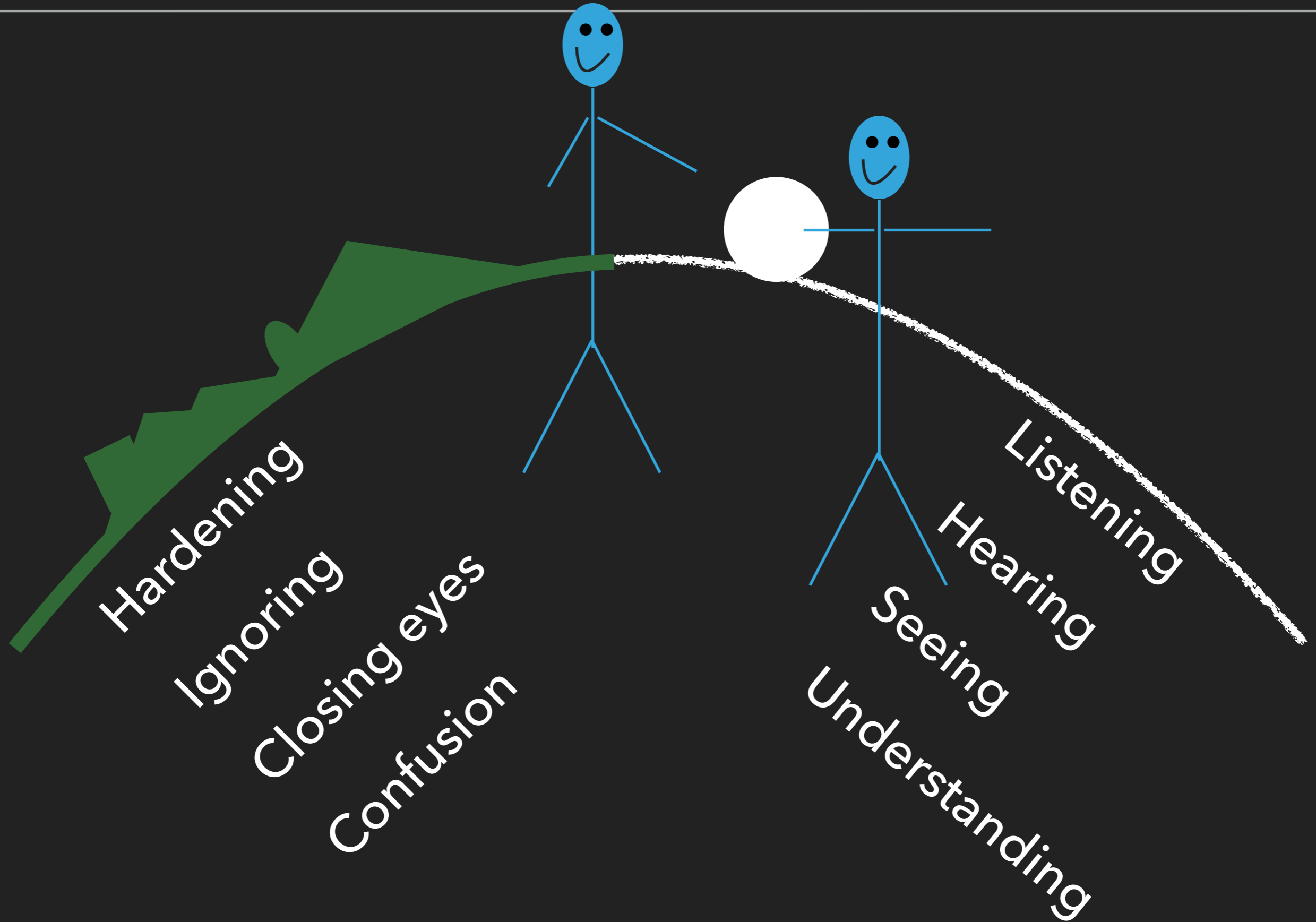
Moses (v.46)

Creation (Romans 1:20)

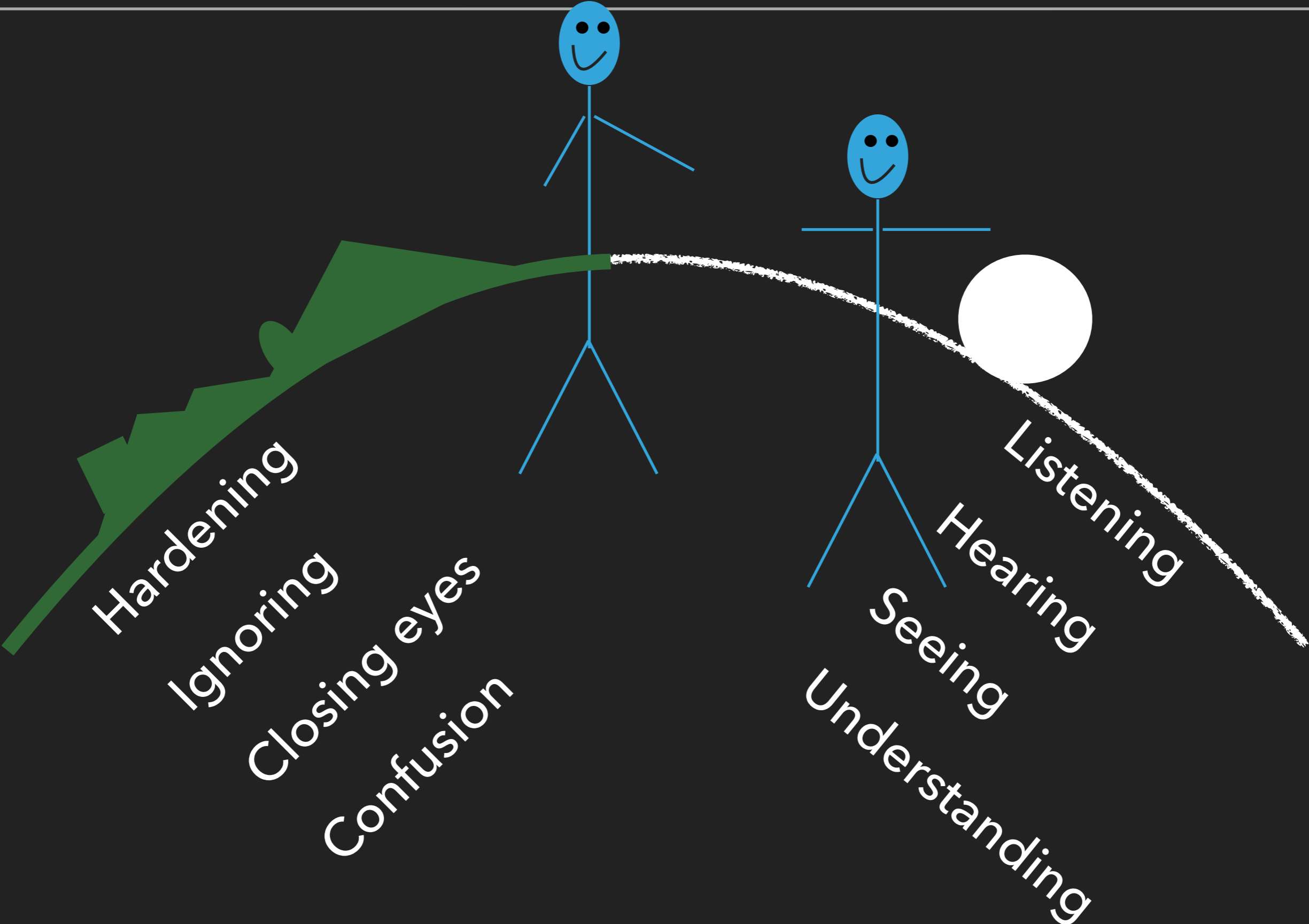
HEARING BUT NOT UNDERSTANDING



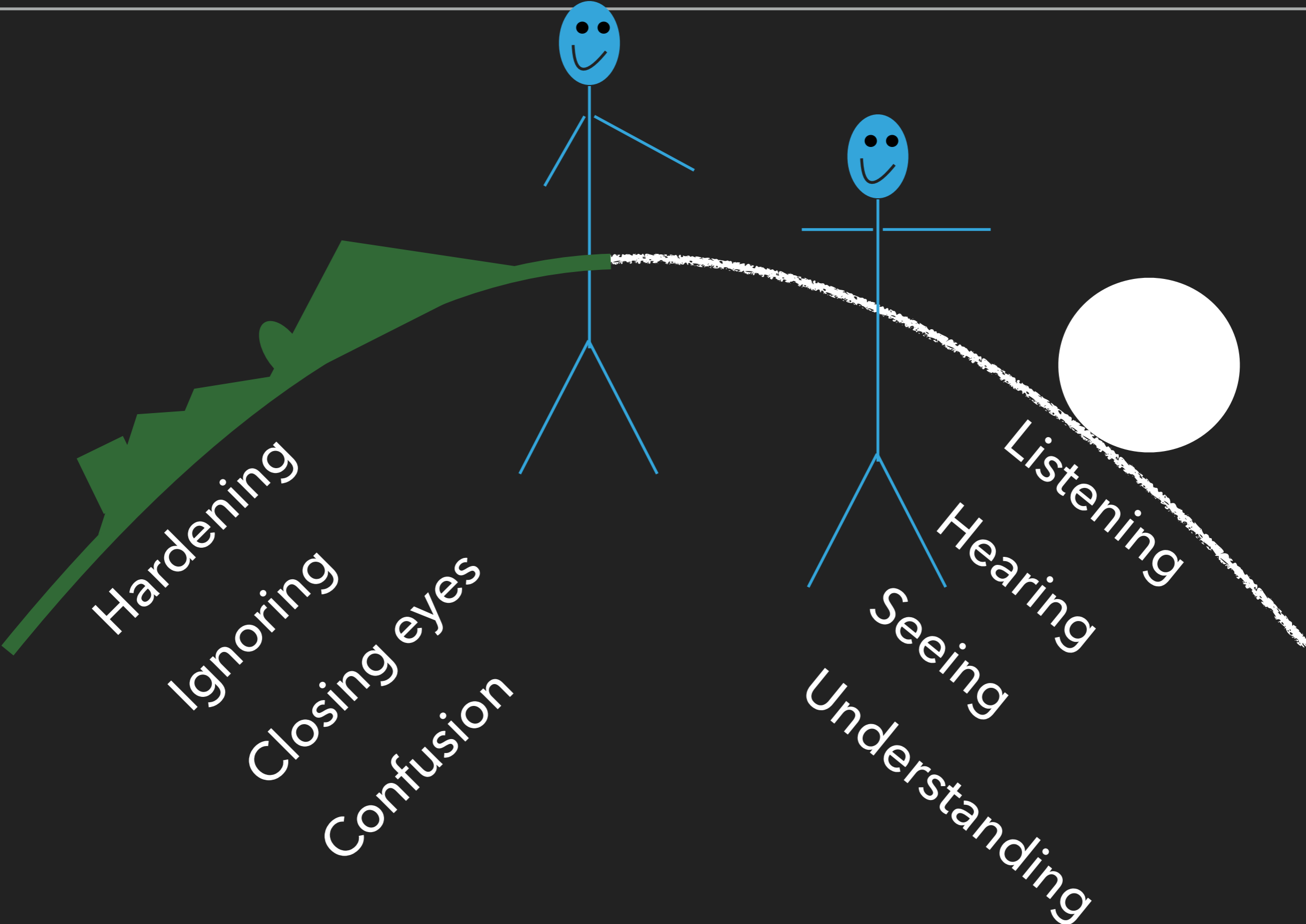
HEARING BUT NOT UNDERSTANDING



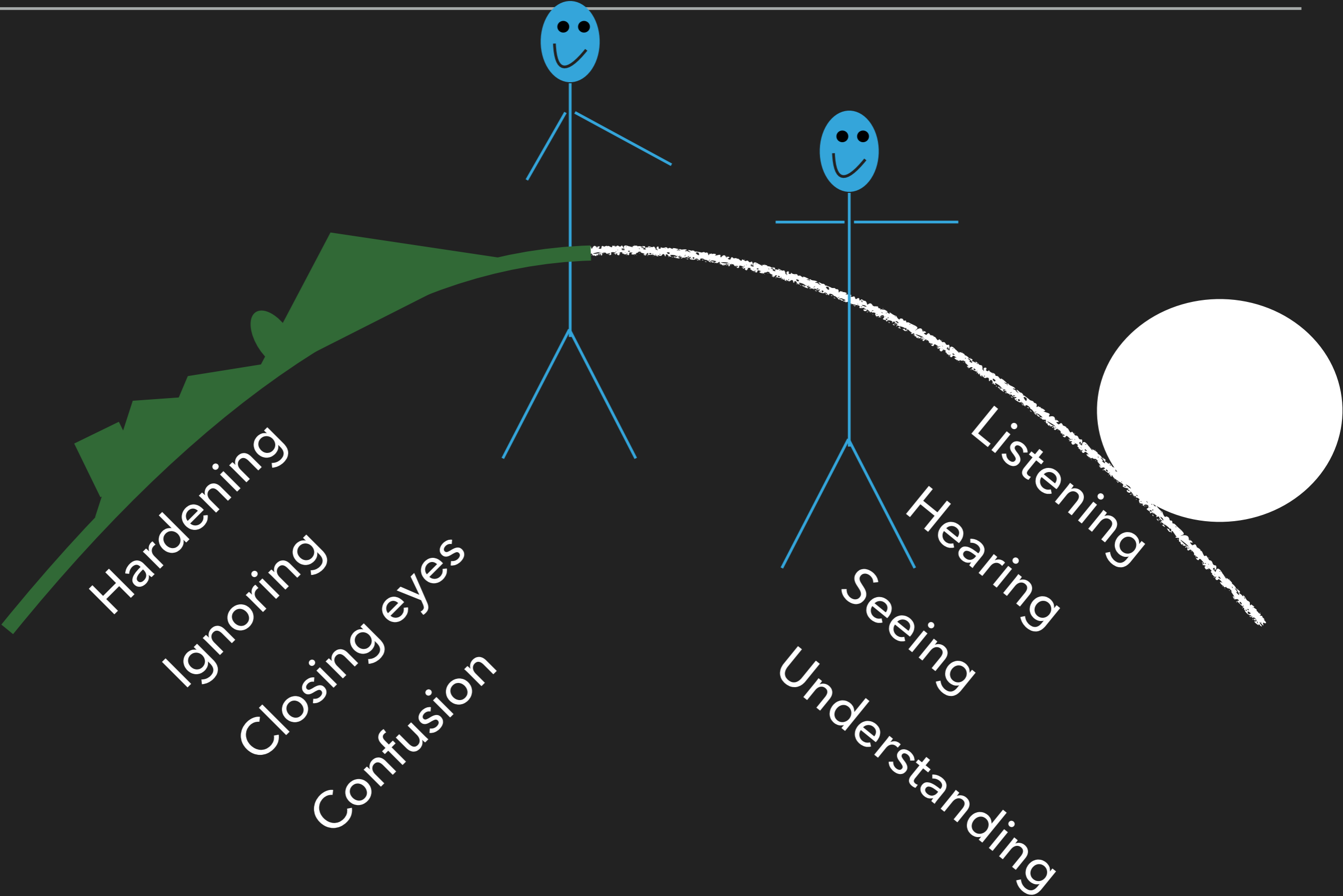
HEARING BUT NOT UNDERSTANDING



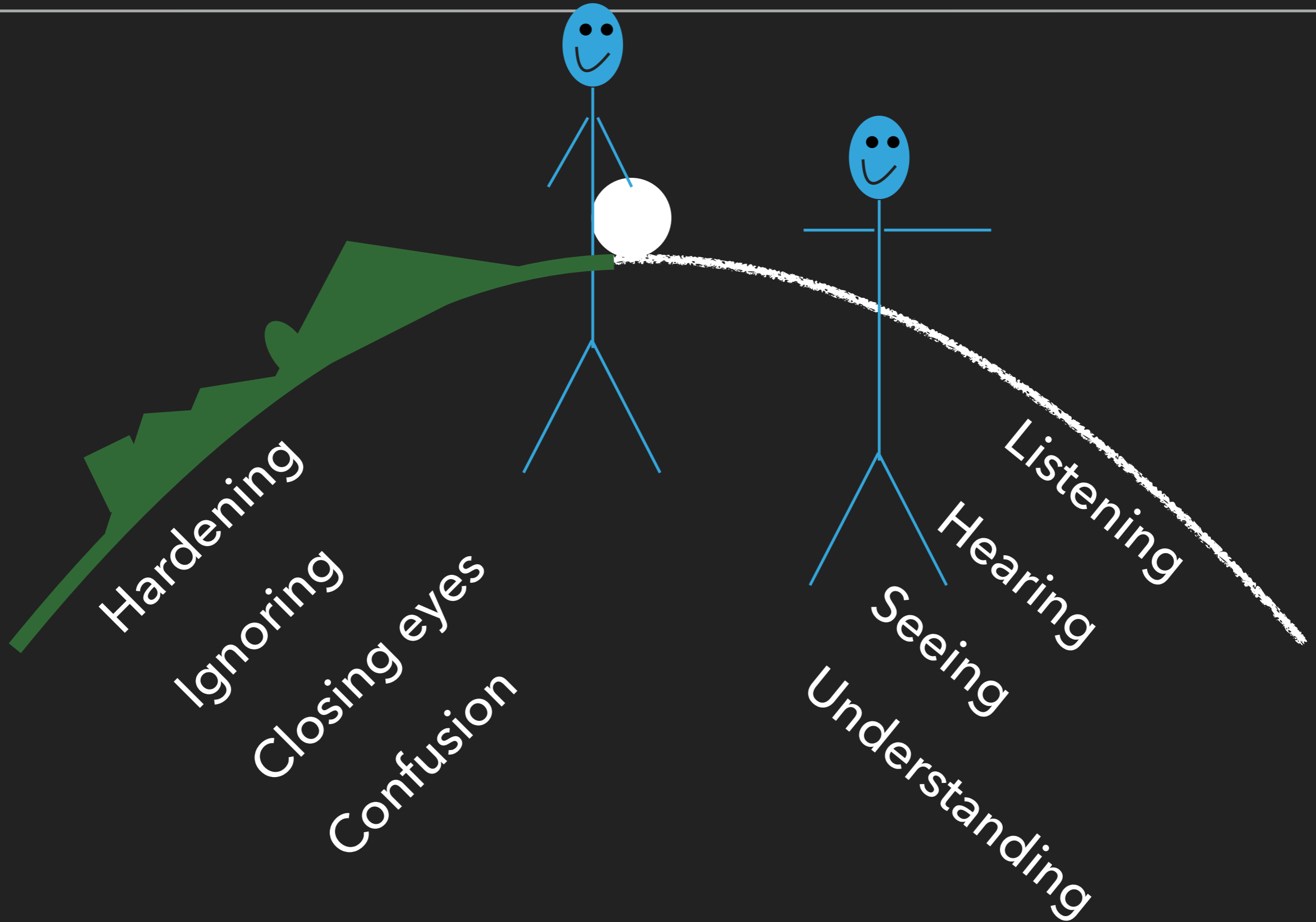
HEARING BUT NOT UNDERSTANDING



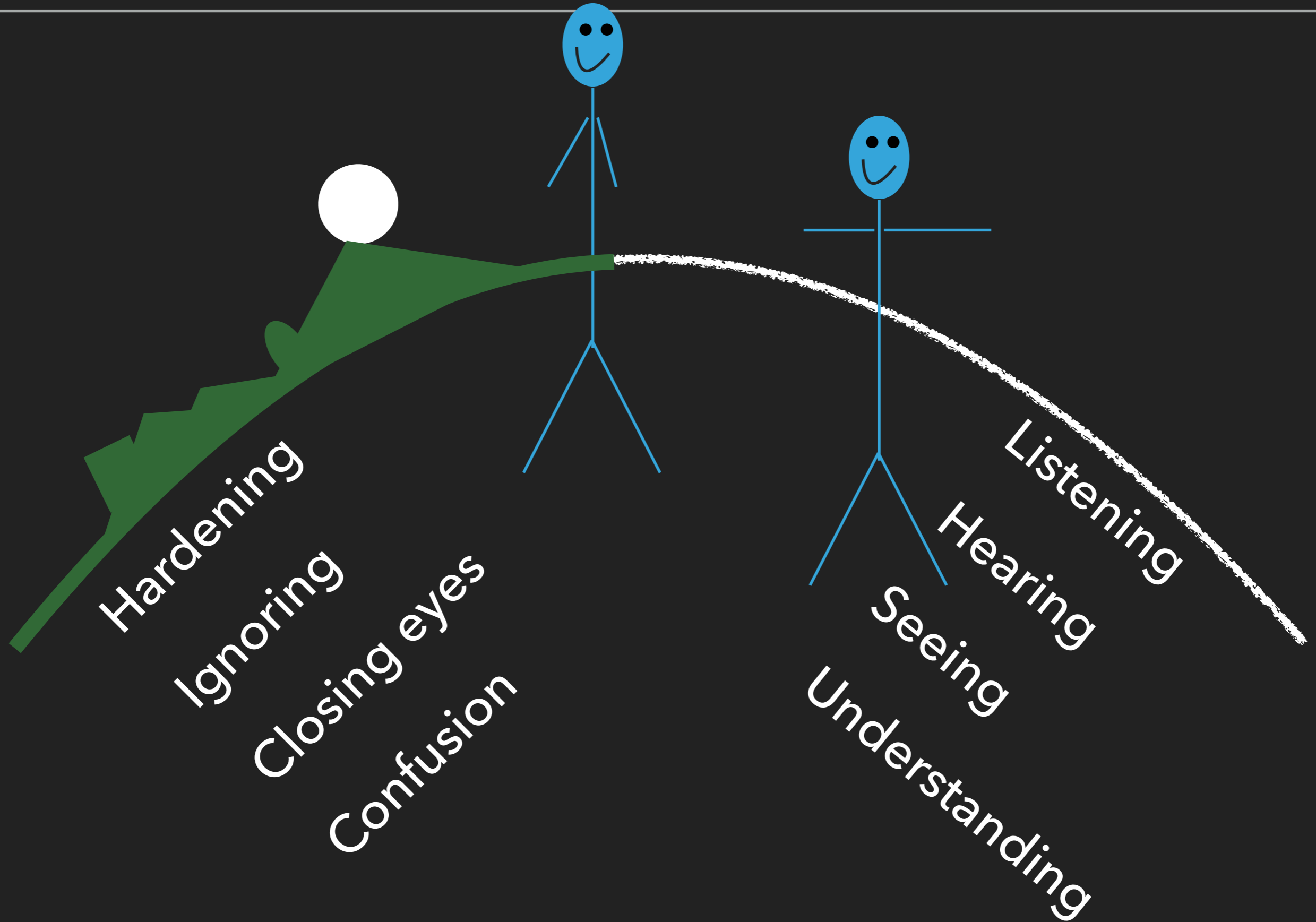
HEARING BUT NOT UNDERSTANDING



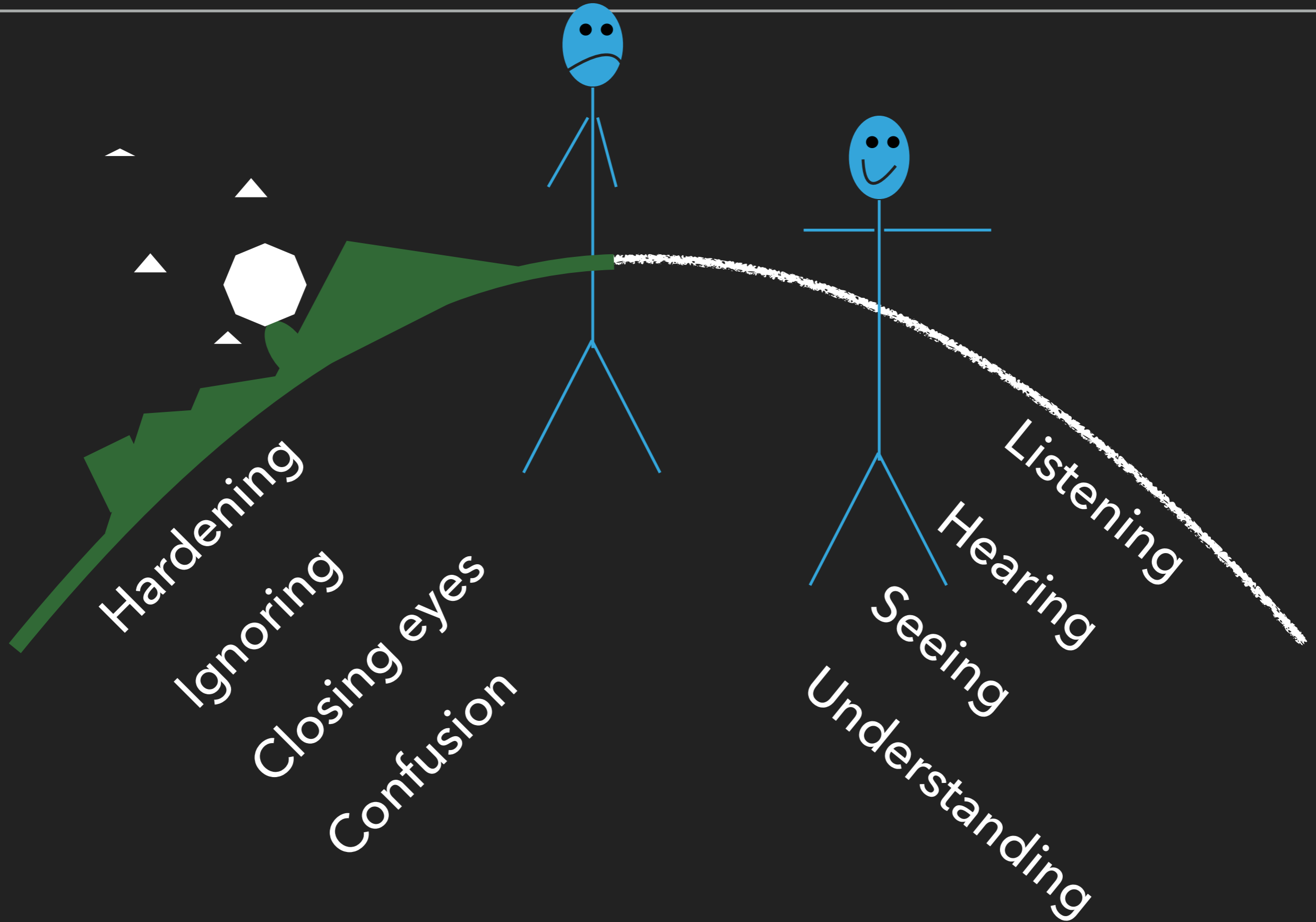
HEARING BUT NOT UNDERSTANDING



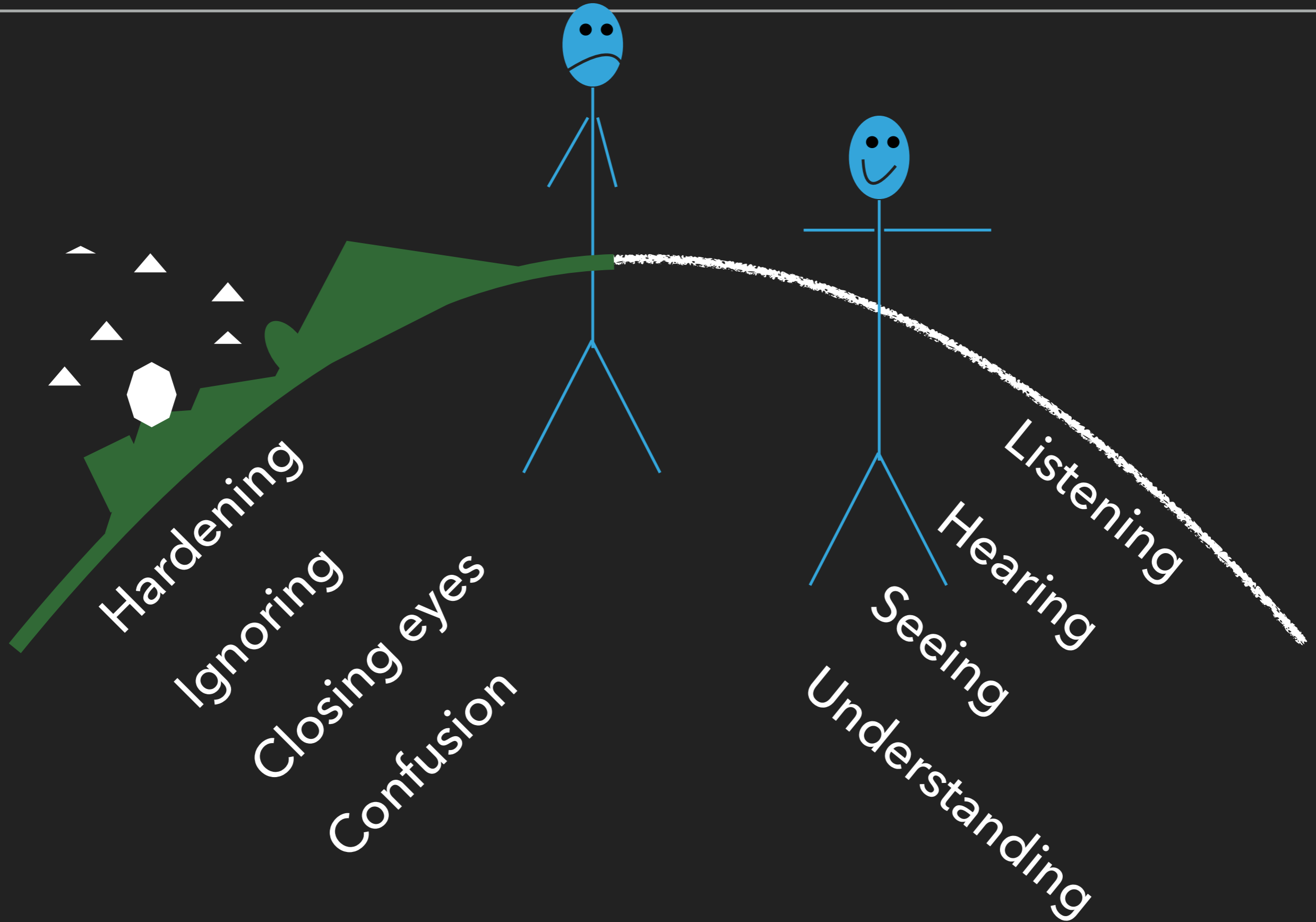
HEARING BUT NOT UNDERSTANDING



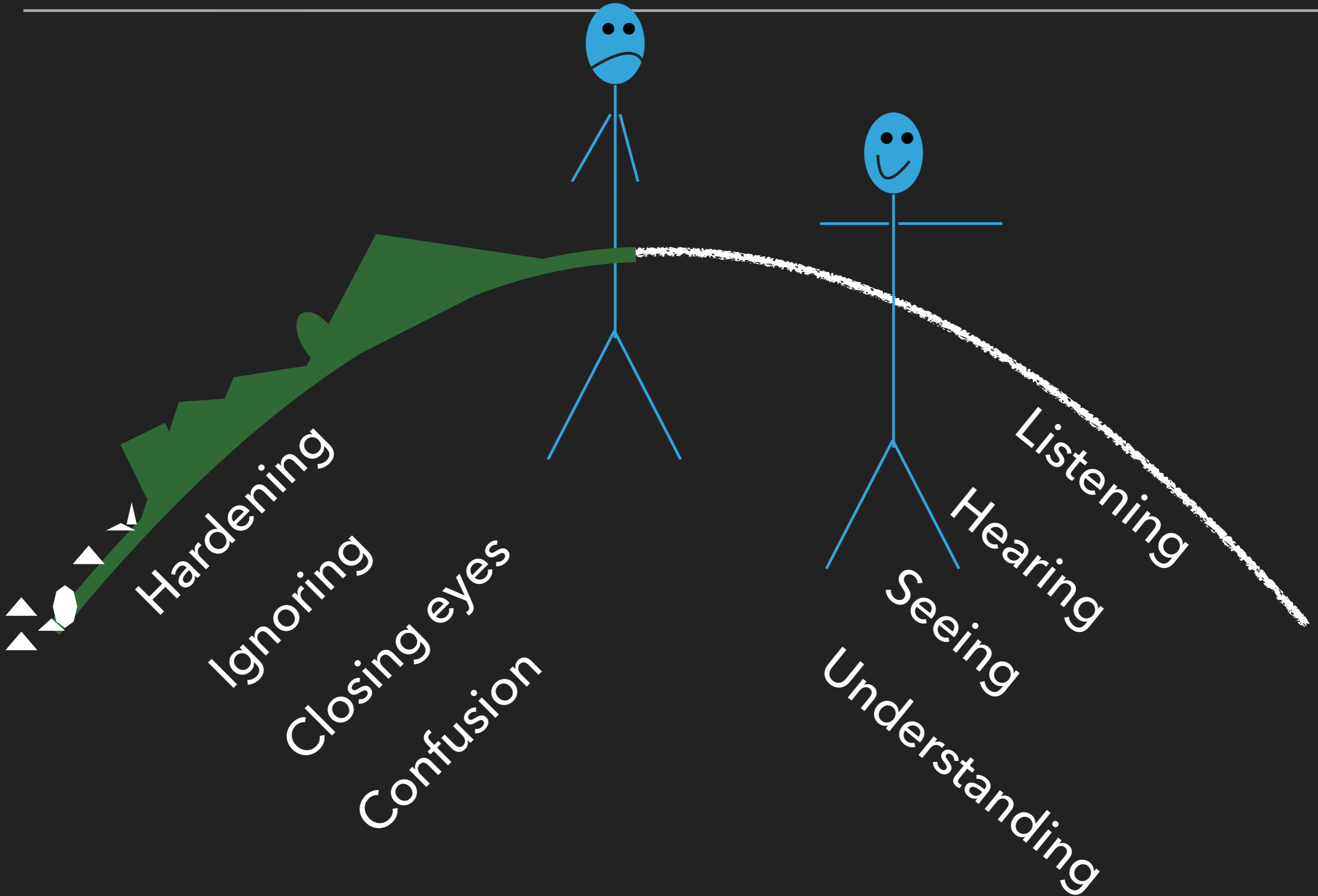
HEARING BUT NOT UNDERSTANDING



HEARING BUT NOT UNDERSTANDING



HEARING BUT NOT UNDERSTANDING



THE CASE OF PHARAOH – THE HARD HEART

▶ God Hardened Pharaoh's heart

1. Exodus 4:21
2. Exodus 7:3-5
3. Exodus 9:12
4. Exodus 10:1
5. Exodus 10:20
6. Exodus 10:27
7. Exodus 11:10
8. Exodus 14:4
9. Exodus 14:8
10. Exodus 14:17

▶ Pharaoh Hardened his heart

1. Exodus 8:15
2. Exodus 8:32
3. Exodus 9:34

▶ Pharaoh's heart became or was hard

▶ several...

THE CASE OF PHARAOH – THE HARD HEART

▶ God Hardened Pharaoh's heart

1. Exodus 4:21
2. Exodus 7:3-5 - But I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and though I multiply my signs and wonders in Egypt, he will not listen to you. Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and with mighty acts of judgment I will bring out my divisions, my people the Israelites. And the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out of it
3. Exodus 9:12
4. Exodus 10:1
5. Exodus 10:20
6. Exodus 10:27
7. Exodus 11:10
8. Exodus 14:4
9. Exodus 14:8
10. Exodus 14:17

▶ Pharaoh Hardened his heart

1. Exodus 8:15
2. Exodus 8:32
3. Exodus 9:34

▶ Pharaoh's heart became or was hard

▶ several...

THE CASE OF PHARAOH - THE HARD HEART

- ▶ Romans 9 - God's sovereign choice
 - ▶ Paul doesn't try to rationalize that God *didn't* harden Pharaoh's heart - Romans 9:14-18
 - ▶ Paul says - He's God, he's the potter - Romans 9:19-21
 - ▶ Jews were upset that the Gentiles were now God's "elect" also - Romans 9:22-29

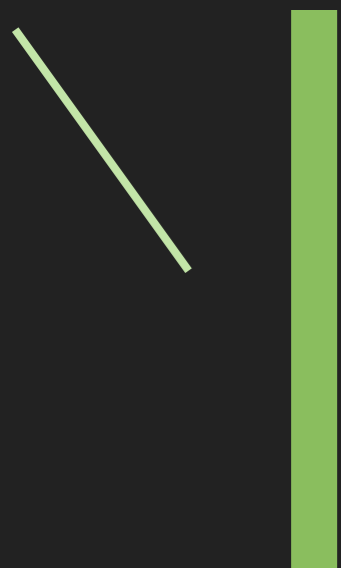
PREDESTINATION

- ▶ Romans 8:28-30- "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. "
- ▶ God wanted both the Jews and the Gentiles from the beginning - he knew he was going to call them both

PREDESTINATION

- ▶ Romans 11:22-24 - Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell [JEWS], but kindness to you [GENTILES], provided that you [GENTILES] continue in his kindness. Otherwise, you [GENTILES] also will be cut off. And if they [JEWS] do not persist in unbelief, they [JEWS] will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them [JEWS] in again. After all, if you [GENTILES] were cut out of an olive tree that is wild by nature [GENTILE TREE], and contrary to nature were grafted into a cultivated olive tree [ISRAEL, GOD'S "COVENANT"], how much more readily will these, the natural branches [JEWS], be grafted into their own [ISRAEL, GOD'S "COVENANT"] olive tree!

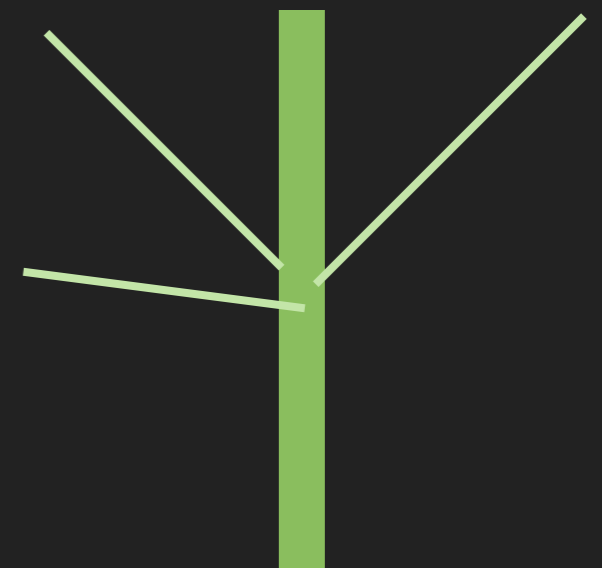
WILD OLIVE TREE - GENTILE



CULTIVATED OLIVE TREE - ISRAEL



CULTIVATED FULL OLIVE TREE



- ISRAEL AND GENTILES

A GRAFTED TREE



- ▶ Romans 11:25-26 "I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in, and in this way all Israel will be saved."
- ▶ GOD HAS A PURPOSE IN HIS PLAN

PREDESTINATION

- ▶ God choosing anyone is most merciful
- ▶ If God owed the forgiveness of sin and eternal life to all men, it would be an injustice if He saved only a limited number of them. But the sinner has absolutely no right or claim on the blessings which flow from divine election. As a matter of fact he has forfeited these blessings. Not only have we no right to call God to account for electing some and passing others by, but we must admit that He would have been perfectly just, if He had not saved any - *Berkhof's Systematic Theology*

FREE WILL VS SOVEREIGNTY

- ▶ God is completely sovereign (has complete authority)
 - ▶ Prayer?
 - ▶ Predestination/Hardening?
- ▶ God gives us free will (but with limitations)
 - ▶ Sin?
 - ▶ Faith?
- ▶ Not an either or...There is a balance. God is sovereign, he CAN do whatever he wants and sometimes he does use that sovereignty. We also have free will within the confines of God's sovereignty (as much as he allows).
 - ▶ Both...and...

OUR PRAYER...FOR BELIEVERS AND NON-BELIEVERS

- ▶ Our job is to see everyone as predestined or chosen

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. -Ephesians 1:17-23

NEXT WEEK

- ▶ Jesus' Effect
 - ▶ Matthew 10:34-42
 - ▶ Matthew 11:1-19
 - ▶ Matthew 26:31-35