

Hearing God

<Intro to Hearing God>

God spoke to His people in the Bible

- Adam & Eve (Genesis 1 -3)
- Moses (Exodus 3)
- Gideon (Judges 6:11 – 24, 6:36 – 40)
- David (1 Samuel 23:1 – 5)
- Jeremiah (Jeremiah 1:4 – 12)
- Jesus (John 8: 26 – 28)
- Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3)
- Joshua (Joshua 1:1-9)
- Samuel (1 Samuel 3:1 -23, 16:1 – 13)
- Elijah (1 Kings 19: 9 – 18)
- Mary (Luke 1:26 – 28)
- Paul (Acts 9:1 – 9)

There is not in the world a kind of life more sweet and delightful than that of a continual conversation with God – Brother Lawrence

Purpose of Hearing God's Voice

1. Grow in our relationship with Him

Exodus 33:7 - 11

2. Guide us in His way

Isaiah 30:21

3. Used by Him to minister to others

Acts 8:26 – 40

Some of the ways God speaks

- i. Listening for the Holy Spirit

Acts 16:6 – 10

- ii. By Waiting on God

4. Waiting on God for His counsel (Psalm 106:13)

5. Waiting on God to act on our behalf (Isaiah 64:4)

- iii. God opening or closing doors through circumstances

Acts 16:6 – 10

How to hear God's Voice

- Remove or avoid distractions
- Practice silence (Psalm 62:1)
- Clear your mind

- Don't think about what you hope to hear or not hear
- Don't think about what you will say next

How do I check to see if it is God's voice I am hearing?

- Consistent with the principles of God's word and character (2 Timothy 3:16)
- God's Word brings life (John 10:10)
- Brings different insight and quality, deeper clarity, understanding and revelation (Isaiah 55:8)
- Brings about greater peace (Colossians 3:15)
- Bears fruit (Galatians 5:22)
- God's confrontations are gentle and caring
- Recognized by other Christians (2-3) as coming from God
- Draws us nearer to God (James 4:8)
- Brings joy to the heart (Psalm 19:8)
- Rings true when you interact with God and the Holy Spirit (John 14:26)

God is inviting us to have a relationship through hearing His voice. We will have to remove all distractions to be able to hear it.

Questions for Reflection

- Do you believe that God wants us to hear His voice? If not, why not?
- Do you plan to make an effort to connect with Him by trying to hear His voice?

Additional Study

- *Hearing God*, Dallas Willard