

Quite Time Hearing the Voice of God

Who can expect to hear the voice of God? In order to hear the voice of God, we need to belong to Him through accepting Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord. **John 8:47** says, **“He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.”** So from this we can conclude that those who do not belong to God they do not hear His voice. **Hebrews 11:6** says **“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”** God rewards those who believe on His existence and who diligently seek Him and follow His ways. It is important that we know that God is a good God and the things He has to say to us are also good. **John 10:10**, says **“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”** The Devil comes to kill, steal and destroy, therefore you need to be away from the Devil and away from his ways. And you need to follow Christ so that as He promised that you will have life and have it more abundantly. In **Psalms 23** God is a shepherd as David declared that God was his shepherd when he said, **“1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. (Psalms 23:1 KJV) As God being a shepherd, then if you belong to God through Jesus, then you need to follow Him. Isaiah 48:17-18** says that He teaches you what is good for you and directs you in the way you need to go, **“17 Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go. 18 O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:” (Isaiah 48:17-18 KJV)** Therefore you ought to be like a sheep who follows willingly the shepherd so you will have peace and you will live in peace.

In order for you to hear God you need to be obedient to Him. **John 8:47** tells us that those who belong to God hear what He says and those who do not belong to God cannot hear God's Word. **“47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.” (John 8:47 KJV)**

How you can know God's voice? There are three possible voices that you may be hearing and as the following:

1. The voice of your soul or your ego: This includes the things you want, what you think, your human desires, your emotions, and your human reasoning.

2. The voice of the enemy: The devil wants to deceive you and makes you do things that displease God. He comes to steal, kill and destroy. Remember that he spoke to Jesus when he was tempted in the wilderness. He may do the same to tempt you to do wrong.

3. The voice of God:

How can we distinguish between them? **James 4:7** gives us the pattern. **“7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” (James 4:7 KJV)**

1. You need to submit yourselves to God: First, you need to silence your own will and emotions. You need to die to your own emotions and reasoning. You can tell God that you do not want to be ruled by your emotions, you don't want to be ruled by your own understanding, but you want to be ruled by Him. In such you are putting yourselves on the side of the will of God.

2. Resist the devil and he will flee from you: You can use the name of Jesus to resist thoughts and ideas from Satan. You can tell him that you forbid him to interfere with God's guidance to you.

3. Learn to recognize God's voice: His voice is not harsh. He doesn't force you to coerce you. **James 3:17** says, **“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.”**

You need to seek Him in order to speak to you. Then you need to wait and give Him time, and learn to wait with faith, expectancy and gratitude. Jeremiah waited for 10 days for a Word from the Lord. Daniel waited for 21 days, but you remember that it says the answer was given the first day, but the messenger was delayed by the prince of Persia. Sometimes the enemy doesn't want you to get the Word of the Lord.

4. You must be willing to obey: Jesus said in **John 7:17**, **“If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.”** Therefore Jesus made it clear that only those who are willing to obey would be able to hear God's Word to them.

Some conditions are needed for hearing God's voice:

1. Faith. You must believe that God exist and will speak to you.

2. Humility. Pride doesn't ask God for guidance. You need to humble down and ask God guidance.

3. A clean heart. You need to have a pure motive.

4. A seeking and thankful heart. Sometimes you have not because you ask not, **“2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.” (James 4:2 KJV)**

5. A waiting heart. You need to wait and to give God time. You need to learn to listen as well as to talk.

6. “16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” (Colossians 3:16 KJV) The Word of God will renew your mind so that you will understand God's will for you. **“19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn,**

and the day star arise in your hearts: 20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.” (2 Peter 1:19-21) “2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.” (Romans 12:2 KJV)

7. To walk in integrity. **James 1:21-22** tells you of the need to get rid of all moral filth and evil and to humbly accept the Word of God that is planted in you which can save you: “21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. 22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.” (James 1:21-22 KJV) You need to be doers of the Word and not only a listener. **Proverbs 11:3** says, “The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.” Therefore you need to be faithful to God otherwise you would be destroyed with your duplicity.

8. To be filled with the Spirit. “17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. 18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; 19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; 20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;” (Ephesians 5:17-20 KJV) Verse 17 commands you to understand the will of God and verse 18 commands you to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Now we will speak about some guidelines to hearing the voice of God:

A. The inner witness. This is within you; the knowing that you are a child of God. This witness within you is the Holy Spirit, and will tell you the truth. “20 But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. 27 But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.” (1 John 2:20, 27 KJV) The inner witness will also let you know that something is untruth and is of the devil, and at times you will sense caution, that something is neither of God nor of the enemy, but is simply of the flesh.

B. The peace of God. The voice of God should not disturb His peace within you. Even when God disciplines you that peace remains. This peace is a supernatural rest in the midst of turbulence. **Colossians 3:15** says “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.”

C. The Word of God. The Word of God is filled with principles to guide your life. The Lord will often speak directly from the Bible that is why you need to continue daily to read your Bible. Hearing through the Word of God can be through one or more of the following ways:

1) **The Holy Spirit will often quicken a verse in your daily reading.** It is important that you have a regular plan of reading Scripture. God is able to speak to you through Scripture in your normal quiet time.

2) **The Holy Spirit will bring to your mind the verse that you have memorized.** It is important that you have hid His Words in your heart, so that He can bring it to your remembrance.

3) **He may bring to your remembrance a person or event in the Bible.** When you turn to that portion of scripture, He will relate it to your present situation.

4) **The Holy Spirit may speak a Word through someone else in testimony, preaching or song.**

5) **As you study particular topic or book of the Bible, He may give you a specific guidance.**

6) **The Holy Spirit may put the reference of a Bible verse in your thoughts.** When you look it up you discover that the verse speaks directly to your situation.

Now the question is what if you don't hear God's voice sometimes? Listen, you cannot always expect to hear God's voice every time you want too. Every Christian experience times when God seems to be silent. Sometimes you may even feel forsaken by Him as we read here, “I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?” (Psalm 42:9 KJV) “How long wilt thou forget me, O LORD? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?” (Psalm 13:1 KJV) These wilderness times are necessary. God uses these times to teach you and mould you. Even though you may not hear Him that does not mean He is not there, for He has promised to never leave you nor forsake you.

My dear and beloved: God is good God who wants to speak to His children. He desires that you seek him, hear His voice and obey Him. Now answer the following questions so you can understand what God wants from you:

- Do you have a daily guide for reading Scripture in your quiet time?
- When you read Scripture do you read expectantly, believing that He will speak to you through His Word?
- When you pray do you also give God time to speak to you as you wait quietly?
- Do you know how to differentiate that you are hearing God's voice and not your own voice or the voice of Satan?

Keep the message on your mind and meditate on it and God shall give you more insight and speak to you; He will let you hear His voice and teach you to refrain from your selfishness, your flesh and ego, and makes you avoid and move away from the voice of Satan.

Let us pray ...

My prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that taught me about hearing the voice of God and that you are still speak to your people. Lord thank you for your teaching to me that I need to come to you, to surrender my life to you, to seek you, to walk in your ways and to obey you so that I can hear your voice and enjoy your presence in my life. Lord thank you for all your guidance and for all the answered prayers and for your voice that helped me much in my life and guided me in the truth and your ways. Lord thank you for all the miracles and the wonders you did. Lord thank you for all the material blessings and the Spiritual gifts that you bestowed over my life. Lord thank you for all the teaching, the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments we received in this message.

Come now to God and repent and renounce all your sins. Repent of your not giving your life to Jesus and living in disobedience to God. Repent of your lack of faith and your non willingness to seek God. Repent of following your own desires and emotions. Repent of your selfishness and following your own will and plan and not the will nor the plan of God in your life. Repent of your worldliness and your love for material things. Repent of your lies, anger, fight, lust, immoralities, laziness, and the rest of the works of the flesh in your life. Repent of your lack of seeking God and praying to Him before you take certain decisions and made certain choices. Repent of your lack of reading of God's Word. Repent of your non willingness to serve God and to suffer for Christ. Lord I repent forgive me the following sins

Lord I commit myself to keep a life of living in obedience to you, submitting myself and my will fully to you. Lord I commit myself to read my Bible daily and to listen to your Word. Lord I commit myself not to follow my emotions nor my desires nor my will, but to follow your Word and your voice and your leading to me with the Scripture and with the Holy Spirit. Lord I place in your hand the following situation to solve it and to guide me with your voice of what I need to do _____ . Lord increase my faith, fill me with the Holy Spirit and give me the Spiritual gifts that I need to serve you. Lord I commit myself to follow you, doing your will and willing to suffer for you. Lord give me good health and strength, guide me, protect me, and provide my needs to continue to serve you.

Lord bless our Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins, and committed their lives to live in holiness and in obedience to you, to your Word and to your will. Lord help them in their lives speak to them and direct them with your voice. Lord solve their problems, answer their prayers, and aid them in their life and ministries. Lord fill them with the Holy Spirit and give them the Spiritual gifts they need to go on and serve you. Lord protect them from the evil one, provide their needs and set them as good examples to others to follow you.

Lord bless us as your church and help us to continue to stand firm to teach and to preach your Word and to declare your will to the people. Lord we ask you to guide us with your voice to go through the following situation _____. Lord we commit ourselves to continue to evangelize and spread your Word in reaching the lost. Lord enable us to go and make new disciples and to train new workers to serve you to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to be water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord take the message and spread it to reach the people who need your Word. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace

with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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